SEATTLE WINNER IN FRIENDLY SUIT FOR CUSTODY OF YOUTH

Judge Davis Makes Ruling in Matter to Settle Grandfather Guardianship.

DAMAGE SUIT IS PENDING

Suit for $100,000 Damages for Death of Clifford Graves' Parents Has Been Commenced.

Clifford Graves, the 5-year-old lad over whose custody his grandfathers in Portland and Seattle have been in friendly litigation in Judge Davis' department of the circuit court, will make his home in Seattle. This was the decision rendered today by Judge Davis.

W. R. Graves of Seattle was appointed by a Seattle court guardian of Clifford when the lad's parents were killed in a railroad accident several months ago. At the time Mr. Graves was named guardian, Clifford was at the home of his Portland grandfather, Levi Hathaway, 824 Gantenbein avenue. Mr. Hathaway petitioned for the appointment of himself as guardian of the boy, and the legal question involved was whether a Seattle court had the power to appoint a guardian for Clifford when Clifford was outside the jurisdiction of the state of Washington.

Judge Davis upheld the contention of H. M. Ramsey, who acted as counsel for Mr. Graves.

W. M. Davis of this city and R. E. Corkey of Spokane were attorneys for Mr. Hathaway.

Suit for $100,000 damages against the railroad for the death of Clifford's parents is pending.

Three Arrested for Drunkenness.

Fifteen arrests were made in the 24 hours ending at noon today by the police. Of these three were for drunkenness. They were George Drescher, Alfred Rebeck and Fred W. Doremus. Drescher and Rebeck were before Judge Stevenson today and he continued their cases for sentence. Doremus is at the emergency hospital. Jail sentences will soon be handed out for drunkenness, announced Judge Stevenson today.

Day's Registrations 384.

Tuesday's registrations at the courthouse were as follows: Republicans, male, 244; Democrats, male, 62, female 8; Independent, male 8, female 1; Progressives, male 1, female 20; Prohibitionists, male 2; Socialists, Male 1, female 1. Total 384.

Substitution of Tires Alleged.

Dan Tornoski was arrested by Deputy Constables McCullough and Druid today on a charge of larceny by bailee preferred by H. M. Johnson. Johnson alleges that Tornosk substituted wornout automobile tires for good tires on a machine rented from Johnson.

White Slaver Pleads Guilty.

George P. Kinsey, a bartender, pleaded guilty before Federal Judge C. E. Wolverton today to violation of the Mann white slave act. He was sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment in the Multnomah county jail.

Burglars Find Easy Way to Make Coin

Blank Checks of United States National Bank Which Were Stolen Are Used in Clever Forgery Deal.

Burglars who entered the home of H. W. Grunwaldt at 582 Brazee street, December 18, among other things, stole a check book containing blank drafts on the United States National bank.

On December 21, a man giving the name H. B. Brenner went to the Canadian Bank of Commerce, represented that he was connected with the Portland Automobile company, and asked to open an account, presenting a check for $260, signed by H. W. Grunwaldt, and drawn on the United States National bank. The check was verified as O. K. by the latter bank, and "Brenner" began drawing on the check, extracting all but $50 of the sum.

The check was found to be a forgery.

PEOPLE TO VOTE ON REPEAL OF SUNDAY BLUE LAW THIS FALL

(Continued From Page One.)

items for postage the originators and sponsors of the proposed measure have not expended a cent in its furtherance.

This is taken to indicate that there is a widespread sentiment throughout the state, for the repeal of the Sunday closing law which was passed in 1864 but which has lain dormant until quite recently.

Each mail brings signed petitions into the office of Dan Kellaher, president of the Independent Retailers' association, and there is every indication that far more than the requisite names will be secured.

The response to the call for signatures has been spontaneous, men in all lines of business being aghast at enforcement of a law so drastic.

No Newspapers; No Street Cars.

With a few specified exemptions, one of which is theatres, the law makes mandatory the closing of almost every kind of store and a cessation of business endeavor on Sunday.

Street cars cannot be operated, newspapers cannot be sold, if the law is carried out to the letter according to those who ask its repeal.

Ice Cream Barred.

One class of business that will suffer severely through strict enforcement of the law is that of manufacturing and distributing ice cream, Sunday being at present the best day of the week in this line.

Sunday shipments to towns in Oregon and Washington constitute a large part of the trade of Portland ice cream manufacturers. The ice cream is sent Sunday morning, as dealers in small towns seldom have icing facilities for keeping the product over Saturday night.

Not only will this class of business be cut off but under the interstate commerce act Washington manufacturers will be able to ship into Oregon of a Sunday while Oregon manufacturers are tied hand and foot, it is asserted.

Dan Kellaher, Ben A. Bellamy, S. S. Rich, C. E. Munro and Leo R. Mersick are the sponsors for the initiative measures repealing the present drastic la-

Auto Strikes Load Of Railroad Iron

Machine Damaged by Collision—Man Knocked Down and Shoulder Bruised Is Result.

An automobile driven by Frank Bohme of 84 East Eighth street north ran into some railroad rails projecting from the rear of a Twohy Bros. truck at Front and Burnside streets last night. The automobile was damaged. The Twohy Bros. truck was being towed by a machine of the Hunt Transfer company and driven by C. J. Coxey.

An automobile driven by Robert Burner struck A. Janits of 228 Yamhill street at Fourth and Washington streets at 11:30 last night. Janits' shoulder was bruised.

ASHLAND OFFICIALS TO BE RETAINED BY NEW CITY COUNCIL

Council Asks Removal of the Chief of Police; Declared Out of Order.

Ashland, Or., Jan. 5.—Ashland's newly elected city council held its first session last night at the city hall. Mayor Johnson delivered his annual message to the council. It was brief and to the point.

Mr. Banta, newly elected councilman from the Third ward, and Mr. Root of the Second ward were active at their initial debut.

In the appointment of officers for various departments of the water company, electric light company and street department, all of the present force is retained except in the police department, where one patrolman was taken off. Mr. Banta advocated the removal of Chief of Police Porter for various reasons, which he wanted to present to the council, and Mayor Johnson called Banta out of order three times during the heated argument over the removal of Porter, bringing back memories to the spectators of the political strategy and personal feeling expressed during the mayoralty campaign of Johnson and Banta.

The city hall was filled with spectators.

Games of Chance Taboo at Astoria

Police Chief and Sheriff Get Busy, With Result That Punchboards, Dice Boxes and the Like Suffer.

Astoria, Or., Jan. 5.—Last evening Police Chief Houghton and Sheriff Burns clamped the lid on punchboards, dice, pea pool and other such games of chance. Every place operating was visited and the edict delivered in person.

The officers' orders were obeyed without wrangling, and last night the crepe was found on the dice boxes and punchboards were not to be had. Yesterday's action, while delayed, was the result of a meeting held a fortnight ago in District Attorney Mullins' office, the officers gave out.

The taboo on all gambling is placed for all time, the officers declare, and any further violations of the law will be prosecuted to the fullest extent.

Card games are next in line for official attention.

Sled Hits Telephone Post; Boy Injured

Edward Jessup, Aged 14, Second Victim of Serious Coasting Accident During Present Snow Storm.

Edward Jessup, aged 14, of 107 East Seventy-ninth street, was seriously injured last night while coasting. His sled collided with one on which a boy named Larry Hughes was riding, and a telephone pole. The boy was taken to the Portland sanitarium. He was resting well this morning and will probably recover.

Robert Terry, who was injured in coasting Saturday night, is still in a serious condition at St. Vincent's hospital, although slightly improved today.

Infantry Band Will Play on Thursday

Vancouver, Wash., Jan. 5.—The second of the series of weekly concerts at the post assembly hall, Vancouver Barracks, by the Twenty-first Infantry band under direction of Frederick G. Butler, chief musician, will be given Thursday evening at 7:30 o'clock. The program announced by Conductor Butler is as follows:

March, The Pathfinder of Panama. .....(Sousa.)
Overture, The Count of Essex.....(Mercadante.)
Excerpts from "High Jinks" (Friml.)
Tone Poem, In Lover's Lane...(Pryor.)
Grand Fantasia, Echoes from The Metropolitan Opera House. (Tobani)
Suite in four parts, Don Quixote
a. A Spanish Village.
b. Sancho Panza.
c. Dulcinea.
d. Don Quixote.....(Safranek.)
Waltz de Concert, Tales of The Vienna Woods.....(Strauss.)
Popular Medley, Harris Hits, No. 7, arranged by.....(Mackie.)

Failed to Kill Self; Sentenced to Jail

Seattle, Wash., Jan. 5.—(U. P.)—Anatole Vasilieff, a young Russian writer, began today to serve a $250 fine in the county jail for having failed to end his own life in a suicide pact with his sweetheart, Valentine Veronina, December 15. The fine was imposed by Judge Gilliam as a penalty for attempting suicide. He and the girl agreed to end their existence because they had not money enough to get married. She was found dead in a boat floating in Lake Union, and the man lay seriously wounded by her side.

Lamp Overturns; Baby Cremated.

New York, Jan. 5.—(I. N. S.) — An alcohol lamp in the children's hospital on Blackwell's island was overturned today under the cot of Benjamin Bruce, an infant patient suffering from pneumonia, and he was cremated. Mary Abbott, a nurse, was badly burned in attempting to rescue the child. Thirty-four other children escaped injury.

COUNCIL TO ATTEMPT TO DECIDE WHETHER TO BUY WATER PLANT

St. Johns Water Officials and Commissioners Discuss the Matter This Morning.

LAWYER SAYS "PIRACY"

Attorney Montague Says if City Builds It Would Be Form of Legalized Robbery.

The city council this afternoon will attempt to determine whether to purchase the water plant in St. Johns owned by the St. Johns Waterworks & Lighting company or build a municipal plant within the district. The question was discussed by the council and officials of the company this morning.

The discussion started after a report by Commissioner Daly and City Attorney La Roche, a committee appointed to confer with officials of the water company, had been submitted, recommending that the offer of the company to sell its plant for $120,000 be rejected and the city start work toward the construction of a plant of its own.

Richard W. Montague, attorney for the water company, said that if the council did not purchase the plant but built a parallel plant of its own within St. Johns it would be legal piracy. He urged that if the city did not purchase the plant at $120,000, the question should be submitted to a board of arbitrators, and said that his company would be willing to accept the figure decided on.

Commissioner Daly contended that the only value of the plant was its serviceable value and said that the water engineers had estimated that the city could build a plant with double the capacity of the present private plant for $124,000.

In an attempt to reach a compromise Commissioner Baker suggested that the company be offered $100,000 for its plant and said that he would be willing to vote for that amount.

Park Offer Accepted.

The offer of the Laurelhurst company to allow the city the use of a block south of the Laurelhurst park for a playground was accepted by the city council this morning. The park bureau proposes to erect playground apparatus on the block loaned.

PERSIA FACTS STILL AWAITED BY PRESIDENT

(Continued From Page One.)

the liner carried a gun will be the main bone of contention. Lansing said in this connection that naval authorities probably will be asked to determine the efficacy of the Persia's 4.7 inch gun, with a view to showing whether its presence was sufficient excuse for an unwarned attack.

Note Not Considered Yet.

The secretary denied that the government is considering a note to Austria yet. With regard to a report that the administration would warn Americans not to travel on armed merchantmen, he said it had not been discussed.

Delay in any action from Austria was ascribed to the inability of the commander of the submarine, which is believed to have sunk the Persia to reach his base and report. Officials felt, however, that as soon as this report is available and if it shows he exceeded the proprieties, Austria will take proper action without waiting for America's ultimatum.

Cabled summaries of survivors' affidavits are expected soon by the state department which has ordered its officials abroad to get information as rapidly as possible.

Boilers on Ship Blew Up.

Unofficial reports that the Persia's boilers blew up promised to figure in the situation, but officials do not believe that the reported boiler explosion was the initial cause of the disaster.

The tension which marked the situation yesterday in official circles was somewhat relaxed today. In fact, a slight optimism was manifest. Hope for a satisfactory outcome was based on Austria's possible action. Some authorities held that she will take the initiative in disavowng the incident and in punishment of the attacking submarine commander, should it develop that an Austrian under sea boat was responsible.

Officials do not believe that Austria has repudiated her promise in the last Ancona note, which agreed that Austria desires to maintain friendly relations with the United States and to observe international and humane laws as insisted upon by this government.

Senate Debates Persia.

Chairman Stone of the senate foreign affairs committee this afternoon brought to an end a warm debate on the Persia in the senate that threatened to embarrass the administration's foreign policy. He withdrew consent to consideration of the foreign policy.

Senator O'Gorman of New York said that the government warned citizens in Mexico to remain away from the fighting area, yet it had not regarded this as a surrender of American rights. Then, he asked, why Americans should not waive for the present their right to travel on belligerent vessels. Senator Nelson of Minnesota queried as to whether American Consul McNeely was unpatriotic because he sailed on the British liner Persia.

Stone Heads Off Debate.

At this stage Stone headed off further discussion, apparently acting in compliance with the wishes of the administration that the foreign situation be kept out of congressional discussion if it tended to be embarrassing.

Senator Gore of Oklahoma is the father of bills to bar American citizens from belligerent ships, which brought on the discussion.

President Wilson will call his cabinet together Friday morning when, it is expected, the nation's policy toward submarine attacks will be formulated. It is hoped details of the Persia sinking will arrive before then.

Only Two Americans Aboard.

Washington, Jan. 5.—(I. N. S.)—The state department today received the following report from American Consul Gaulin at Marseilles:

"Marseilles agents of the Peninsular & Oriental line state that only two Americans were aboard the liner Persia. These were American Consul McNeely, who is missing, and Robert Grant of Boston, who was saved."

Father Hickey Dies Of Influenza Attack

Catholic Missionary Fifteen Years in Charge of Work in Eastern Oregon; Was 75 Years Old.

Father Hickey, since 1900 in charge of missionary work of Roman Catholic church in eastern Oregon, died at St. Vincent's hospital at noon today. He had been ill for a number of days with influenza. Father Hickey came here 15 years ago from an eastern diocese and originally to the United States from Ireland. He was 75 years of age.

During the past 11 months Father Hickey had been chaplain of the convent of the Holy Child in Portland. Funeral arrangements have not been made as yet.

PREPAREDNESS PLANS MUST BE MODIFIED, IS WHITE HOUSE BELIEF

Reported Defection of Senator Kern From Program Indicates Break.

Washington, Jan. 5.—(U. P.)—Unless it is materially modified, President Wilson's military preparedness program will be beaten, the administration itself believes, it was authoritatively learned today.

Senate Leader Kern's defection from the ranks of supporters furnished final proof of this to the White House. He has balked at the program because he held that his Indiana constituents are opposed to it.

This leaves the program unsupported by the leaders of both houses. Major Leader Kitchin of the house held off from the first and announced he could not give his aid to the program, but Kern was expected to lead the administration fight in the senate.

Citizen Army Opposed.

The preparedness sentiment which swept the country several weeks ago has reached its crest, some leaders think. Moreover, President Wilson is receiving discouraging reports of the situation.

The opposition to the program centers in Secretary Garrison's army plan, which includes military training for a vast citizen army. "The people back home," do not like it, many congressmen report.

"I will stand by my statement that generally I will support the preparedness program, but which of several proposed plans I will approve I cannot say," commented Kern today.

Bryan Influence Seen.

The political and personal relationship between former Secretary of State Bryan and Kern has always been close, and Kern's defection is traced to the ex-secretary, who spent two days with Representative Kitchin making plans against the administration program.

Preparedness hearings were begun today by the house naval committee and they promise to last for several months. Hearings on the army measures will begin in the house military committee tomorrow. Secretary Garrison is slated to be the first person examined by the members.

The administration is confident that two battleships and a number of auxiliary vessels will be authorized.

The need for more government docks, where battleships and smaller vessels can be built, was the general tenor of the testimony of Rear Admiral Stanford before the naval committee.

National Park in Washington.

Washington, Jan. 5.—(I. N. S.)—Representative Johnson of Washington has introduced a bill providing for the establishment of a national park in the state of Washington to be known as the Olympic National park. The bill provides for an appropriation of $100,000 for the construction of roads in and near the park.

Fake Veterans in Baker G. A. R. Camp

Post Commander, Upon Taking Office, Makes a Declaration of Somewhat Startling Nature.

Baker, Or., Jan. 5.—J. M. Yeates, the new post commander of Joe Hooker post, G. A. R., when installed in office yesterday, made several startling charges in his speech of acceptance. In addressing his fellow comrades, Mr. Yeates stated that there were members of the organization not entitled to membership, having failed to produce credentials, and he announced that his first step would be to see that all impostors are ousted. He claimed that some have become members of the post who never fought for the United States in the Civil war, or any other.

That one of these impostors joined in the line of march at a recent public meeting and wore a Grand Army button, to which he is not entitled, the old veteran claimed, and he proposes to see that these other "veterans" are ousted from the ranks.

His vigorous remarks created quite a stir among the old soldiers, of whom there are about 100 in the post, and while no names were mentioned by the commander, others are hinting at one or two members who will be given a chance to retire gracefully without being publicly ousted.

Highways Are Improved.

Baker Or., Jan. 5.—County Commissioners William J. Welch and J. P. Ritter have been at Nelson, where, in cooperation with the O-W. R. & N., the county is making extensive improvements to the highways, including the elimination of some grade crossings.

Pierong Named to Head Amusements

Nick Pierong, formerly manager of the Empress theatre, has been appointed superintendent of amusements for the 1916 Rose Festival. Mr. Pierong took up his new duties today. The announcement was made from the Festival headquarters today.

Frank E. Smith Honor Guest.

In appreciation for his services in handling the Manufacturers' and Land Products' show a luncheon will be given at the Commercial club tomorrow noon by the managing committee of the industries and manufacturers' bureau of the Chamber of Commerce to Frank E. Smith. Mr. Smith took over the direction of the show following the death of the late A. J. Kingsley.

GOVERNMENT OFFERS EVIDENCE TO SHOW THE VALUE OF TIMBER

Counsel for Oregon Lumber Co. Makes Effort to Exclude Testimony but Fails.

BOOKKEEPER ON STAND

Assertion Made Money Was Given Entrymen by Employ of Company to Prove Up With.

Protest at the introduction of testimony showing amounts of timber cut from lands involved in the government's suit to recover timber and stone entries alleged to have been secured through fraud, was made today before Judge R. S. Bean by counsel for the Oregon Lumber company. The objection was that such testimony predicated the asking of damages and that damages cannot be recovered in a suit in equity.

Judge Bean ruled that the testimony should be admitted, subject to the objection, that the record might be complete. Assistant District Attorney Beckman then placed on the stand several timber cruisers who had made a back-scale of timber cut from the claims. James E. McCrea, a private cruiser employed by the government, and Ralph H. Gilliland of the United States land office, submitted maps of the Baker county claims and testified in detail as to the amount of timber that had been cut from each. This consumed most of the morning.

Frederick H. Atkinson continued testimony he had given yesterday. He said that after he had become bookkeeper for the Oregon Lumber company in 1905 he found some 25 or 30 notes given the company by entrymen back in 1899 covering money paid them to turn in at the land office in proving up timber claims. These notes apparently had never been paid.

A. G. Littleton of Baker testified that he had made an entry in 1899, and proved up at the La Grande land office. He said he had been handed the money, about $510 a few minutes before he went to the land office. He said that the money was wrapped in paper and given him on the street by Ed Hyde, bookkeeper for the Oregon Lumber company. He said he gave no note or security of any kind and had paid no publication fee. He said he had signed some sort of a paper afterward, possibly a deed, in the office of the lumber company. For this he said he received a credit of $100 on the company's books, he having owed it money at the time.

Son of One of the Early Pioneers Dies

Miles Arnspiger, who died yesterday at his home, 615 East Twentieth street, was a son of one of the earliest pioneers of Oregon, George Arnspiger, who came across the plains with his family.

Miles Arnspiger was born in Clackamas county, and was 56 years, 8 months and 13 days old. He had lived for the last 40 years in Portland. He is survived by the widow, Mrs. Emma Arnspiger, and five children—George, Milton and Russel Arnspiger; Mrs. C. E. Johnson and Mrs. W. J. Hoffer, all of this city. He was a member of Portland camp, Woodmen of the World, and of the Knights and Ladies of Security. Funeral arrangements will be made by the Edward Holman company.

Export Wheat Rates May Be Readjusted

Tariffs May Be Published for Only Five Days in Advance of Their Effectiveness.

Rail carriers may readjust their rates of export wheat to meet the present emergency by publishing tariffs for only five days in advance of their effectiveness, according to an order of the Interstate Commerce commission received by the Chamber of Commerce today.

R. H. Countiss, manager of the transcontinental freight bureau, had made application that the statutory time of 30 days' publication be modified because of the closing of the Panama canal and the congestion of freight at the Atlantic seaboard. The commission refused Countiss' application, but the traffic and transportation bureau of the chamber sent a telegram urging that it rescind its action.

Movie Actors Get a Taste of Real Life

Score Snowbound in California; Food Running Low; Will Attempt Dash With Alaska Dogs and Snowshoes.

Victorville, Cal., Jan. 5.—(U. P.)—Snowbound on Pine Knot Lodge above this city, 20 persons, mostly motion picture actors, will make a dash to escape on Friday. At that time, with some riding on sledges behind Alaskan dogs and others using snowshoes, they will follow the line of the trail toward Victorville while Shay brothers drive heavy trucks into the mountains as far as Cactus Flats, where they hope to meet the actors.

The movie people have been snowed in for several weeks. Their food is running low.

Robber Found Just Man He Looked For

Henry Haines Was Held Up at 7 o'Clock This Morning and Relieved of $2.25.

"You're just the man I'm looking for," said a man to Henry Haines of 118 East Eightieth street north, at 7 o'clock this morning, as he stuck a gun into Haines' face at Buxton and Nelson streets, and added: "Give me your money, quick!"

Haines had $2.25, which the robber took. The victim said the robber looked to be about 45 years of age and about six feet tall. He had a few days' growth of beard.

Wood Alcohol Is Cause of 2 Deaths

Seattle, Wash., Jan. 5.—(P. N. S.)—Because their craving for the drink denied them when prohibition became effective led them to imbibe quantities of wood alcohol, two men are dead here today. Jack Mullen died at the city hospital from the effects of an overdose of wood alcohol diluted with water and an unidentified man was found dead from the same cause in a local hotel.

Minors Prohibited From Pool Rooms

Minors are prohibited from poolrooms under an ordinance passed with an emergency clause today. Formerly the ordinance allowed boys between 18 and 21 years of age in poolrooms until 10 o'clock at night. All boys under 21 years of age are now prohibited from entering the places.

LUMBERMEN TRACING RUMOR THAT FRANCE IS SEEKING BIG ORDER

Report That Nation Is in the Market for 200,000,000 Feet Causes Inquiry.

Lumber manufacturers and dealers in Portland and throughout the Pacific northwest are busy trying to run down to an authentic source the rumor that France is in the market on the Pacific coast for 200,000,000 feet of lumber for trench lining and other purposes on the fighting lines.

During the past several months the allies placed orders with southern pine manufacturers for 200,000,000 feet of common pine lumber and expressed the desire to purchase 200,000,000 feet at the figures quoted on the lumber for which orders were placed, but it is known that the southern manufacturers refused to consider the offer a few days ago. The rumor is now going the rounds that France turned to the Pacific coast, in the belief that the material may be obtained here to better advantage, and it is believed here, too, that this might be done since southern pine prices have advanced rapidly as a result of the large business now keeping the mills humming down there.

Canal Problem Handicap.

The one great obstacle interfering with the European orders here has been the closing of the Panama canal, but it is hoped that the waterway will be open for navigation by March 1 or soon thereafter, and in that event it would not take much longer to make deliveries from the Pacific northwest than from points on the Gulf, it is pointed out.

It has been figured out that it would require about 60 steamers of the average size employed in the offshore lumber trade to carry the material. Steamers available for lumber carrying are about as scarce as the proverbial hen teeth just now, and freights are exorbitant, but it is also pointed out that if France or the allies purchase the lumber, it will be seen to that it is delivered within the specified time, even if craft have to be commandeered to accomplish the feat.

Some Doubt Truth of Inquiry.

However, so far none of the immense business has yet been placed in Portland or the surrounding lumber districts. Some manufacturers here say there is absolutely no foundation of truth in the rumor, but others feel quite confident that France is in the field ready to buy if satisfactory quotations are obtained.

According to F. H. Ransom, manager of the Eastern & Western Lumber company, the order has been placed in the hands of two lumber brokers, one of San Francisco and the other of Tacoma, with instructions to figure on early deliveries.

H. B. Van Duzer, manager of the Inman-Poulsen Lumber company, contends that the report is merely gossip. "It started with a lumberman on Puget sound who when asked how much lumber was wanted by France but could not be delivered, replied, 'About 200,000,000,' he explained. The present story according to my best information grew out of that statement."

C. E. Dant of Dant & Russell, wholesale lumber dealers, inclined to doubt the reports.

Inquiries Are Reported.

"Inquiries have been coming into this office for the past 18 months for lumber for delivery to France," he said, "but none of these inquiries has resulted in an order being placed on the Columbia river. Two cargoes, one at Westport and one at Inman-Poulsen's, remain to be delivered and have held down valuable space on these docks for nearly six months.

"Our representatives abroad have reported that while France would like to have lumber there is no chance of it being delivered."

All agree, however, that the order if placed, would prove a boon to the lumber industry, and the beneficial effects on other lines of business would be far reaching.

Columbia Highway Program Featured

An Entire Evening Is to Be Given to Local Matter at Convention of the United States Chamber of Commerce.

That an entire evening of the program for the convention of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States to be held in Washington, D. C., in February, has been set aside for the Columbia river highway, was the announcement made by George E. Hardy, executive secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, speaking before the Apartment House association in the Central library last night.

Tourist travel was the subject under discussion and Mr. Hardy pointed out that the advertising value of a Columbia highway picture exhibition at such a convention would be of inestimable value. He read a telegram from the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce stating that the value of tourist travel to that city was from $30,000,000 to $50,000,000 a year.

Julius L. Meier, chairman of the Chamber of Commerce letter writing week committee, asked those present to engage actively in the campaign. Frank Branch Riley described scenic spots around Portland and Samuel C. Lancaster gave an illustrated lecture on the highway.

Dedication of Gorge Is Now Proposed

President Colt of Chamber of Commerce Sends Word to Chief Forester Graves; Thanks Are Also Extended.

C. C. Colt, president of the Chamber of Commerce, today sent to Chief Forester Henry S. Graves a telegram urging that when the national dedication of the Columbia river highway is made during the coming Rose Festival, the ceremony also be extended to a dedication of Columbia Gorge park.

President Colt extends to the forester the thanks of the chamber and of the Oregon public for his interest and enthusiastic support of the project to set aside the 14,000 acres of forest land adjoining the highway as a park. He asks that the dedication be featured by the presence of Mr. Graves and a representative of the department of agriculture.

District Attorney in A Quandary Now

Disposition of 15 barrels of alcohol and eight barrels of cologne spirits, which consists chiefly of alcohol, is puzzling District Attorney Evans today. The shipment arrived last night from California. It was brought to this state by the steamship Great Northern and was consigned to a bonded warehouse in Portland. The final destination of the liquor, however, is a drug company. If the company chooses to make the bonded warehouse its legal agent, it is not within the province of the district attorney to interfere with the delivery of the goods, says Mr. Evans.

Aged Couple Sought.

San Francisco, Jan. 5. — (U. P.)—Local police are hunting an aged couple, who, it is alleged, have been passing many bad checks. They appeared like innocent folks "from the country," and their checks were eagerly accepted in most cases.

On the Way to Ben Selling's Clearance Sale!

Hundreds are taking advantage of the genuine reductions on my regular stock of fine tailored apparel for men and women. Every garment is new and every one is offered now at a price far below normal. All garments bear my label, which is a guaranty that you are to be satisfied with every purchase, small or great. You are invited to make your selections now and take advantage of the reduced prices.

Men's Suits and Overcoats

Men's $40 Suits and Overcoats now **$32.50**
Men's $35 Suits and Overcoats now **$28.50**
Men's $30 Suits and Overcoats now **$24.85**
Men's $25 Suits and Overcoats now **$19.85**
Men's $20 Suits and Overcoats now **$16.85**
All Blacks and Blues Included

Young Men's Suits and Overcoats

Young Men's $30 Suits and Overcoats **$24.85**
Young Men's $25 Suits and Overcoats **$19.85**
Young Men's $20 Suits and Overcoats **$16.85**
Young Men's $15 Suits and Overcoats **$11.85**
Young Men's $10 Suits and Overcoats **$ 7.85**
All Blacks and Blues Included

Tomorrow! Manhattan Shirt Sale!

No old stock here! These are the 1915 Fall patterns. The best—the newest!
Percale, Madras, Silk, Silk and Lisle, Wool, Silk and Wool.

$1.50 Manhattan Shirts **$1.15**
$2.00 Manhattan Shirts **$1.55**
$2.50 Manhattan Shirts **$1.95**
$3.00 Manhattan Shirts **$1.95**
$3.50 Manhattan Shirts **$2.85**
$4.00 Manhattan Shirts **$2.85**
$5.00 Manhattan Shirts **$3.85**

Women's Suits Half Price
Newest Models, Man-Tailored

Women's $62.50 Fancy Suits **$31.25**
Women's $48.50 Fancy Suits **$24.25**
Women's $37.50 Fancy Suits **$18.75**
Women's $29.50 Fancy Suits **$14.75**
Women's $24.50 Fancy Suits **$12.25**
Women's $19.50 Fancy Suits **$ 9.75**

Fur-Trimmed Plush Coats

Women's $35.00 Plush Coats **$25.00**
Women's $30.00 Plush Coats **$22.50**
Women's $25.00 Plush Coats **$16.50**
Women's $20.00 Plush Coats **$15.00**

Fancy Coats One-Half

Women's $45.00 Fancy Coats **$22.50**
Women's $40.00 Fancy Coats **$20.00**
Women's $30.00 Fancy Coats **$15.00**
Women's $20 Fancy Coats **$10.00**

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