

A Few Dolls, Albums, Picture Books, One-half price. New York Racket!

"We the people" that must be respected do ordain as follows: That any person or persons that would dare to offer for sale any clothing, either in men's, boy's or childrens, below our cut prices, shall be sentenced to hard labor at 25 cents a day, that they may help to support themselves and those dependent upon them. Any person knowing of any violation of this "edict" shall be rewarded with a "bone collar button" by proving the same to the satisfaction of G. W. JOHNSON & CO.

The talk of Town an Country. The Peremptory Auction Sale!

Has only been running a few days and it as been a grand success, and no wonder, because the people have been getting just the goods they wanted at their own prices. will certainly pay you all to attend, as you, too, can get your own purchases at your own prices. The assortment is ill good, so do not delay, but come at once. Remember the Corner State and Commercial sts., Salem. S. FRIEDMAN, Auctioneer.

A Good Point to remember in the purchase of hardware, is that quality should never be sacrificed for price. Low prices with us mean no sacrifice of excellence. Any one who buys of us will certify to this fact. GRAY BROS Salem Or.

ORIENTAL MATTERS.

England to Resist the Czar in China.

JAPAN AND ENGLAND UNITED.

An Agreement to This Affect Has Been Reached.

CHICAGO, Dec. 31.—A special from Minneapolis says:—Advices from Ottawa indicate that the British government is preparing to actively resist Russian occupancy of Port Arthur and Russian influence in Corea, and also that the co-operation of the Japanese fleet with that of Great Britain is a well-settled fact. Information has been received from a reliable source to the effect that the Ottawa government 30 days ago notified the Canadian Pacific officials to be in readiness for the immediate transportation from Montreal to Vancouver and Esquimaux of 3500 men, the contingent consisting of engineers, guided the deck officers. According to information at hand, the road has been prepared for handling 5000 men, five trains being held in readiness for this service. The officers included in the first contingent are intended to reinforce the Japanese fleet which is said to be very short on engineering talent and deficient in gunnery. The dispatch adds that a secret agreement has been concluded between Great Britain and Japan by the terms of which the Russian pretensions in Corea are to be overcome, and Russian aggrandizement in Asia permanently checked. Captain Ronald Rolf R. N., on inspection service, just returned from the west and on his way to England via New York, says, in his opinion, the forces above referred to is destined to increase the English forces at the forts at Esquimaux and Pacific Squadron. He declines to discuss the probability of an imbroglio with Russia, but asserts that in case of actual hostilities the British Asiatic Squadron is of sufficient strength to enforce any demands Great Britain may have to make. He denies that there is any probability of an Anglo-Japanese alliance, remarking that England's combining with a fourth-rate power like Japan would be a confession of weakness that does not exist. He asserts with positiveness that the contingent to be sent west is not for Japanese reinforcement, but rather to serve on the fleets in operation should a naval war be precipitated in the Orient.

The Situation.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Shanghai, dated on Thursday, says: The British fleet of eight ships and four torpedo boats has arrived at Chemulpo, port of Seoul. It is reported that there are two Japanese cruisers in the Yang Tse Kiang river. Japan is working night and day preparing for war. It is believed that the British and Japanese fleets are in a close touch.

A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Tokio, says: The Marquis Ito is forming a new cabinet and according to a dispatch to the same paper from Nagasaki, dated Thursday, it is believed that Marquis Ito will aim to maintain a peaceful attitude.

Discredited. PARIS, Dec. 31.—The officers of the French ministry of marine regard the report of the occupation of the island of Hainan, off the south coast of China, by the French fleet as an invention. During the day there was issued a semi-official contradiction of the report.

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The officials of the Canadian Pacific railway here say they have no knowledge of the British admiralty having requisitioned three of the Empress steamships, belonging to that company, as reported in a dispatch from Shanghai, and they believe the statement to be unfounded. Rights to be Upheld. PERIN, Dec. 31.—The suppression of J. McLevy Brown, British superintendent of customs, is at present engaging the attention of the British government with a view of upholding his rights. Four British war vessels are understood to be off Chemulpo. GOVERNMENT RELIEF. Montana Horses Should Be Used Instead of Remder. WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—Secretary Alger has received two reports from Capt. Robinson, the contract quartermaster at Seattle, touching the relative merits of the different trails from the seaboard into the Klondike country. He made thorough inquiry at the direction of secretary and, in substance, this conclusions reached, after conferring with Jack Dalton and other experts, are that the Dalton trail is not well adapted to the uses of the government expedition during the winter, but that the Skaguay route is probably the best. The captain says he had an interview with one man who claims to have 70,000 pounds of beef stored at Lake Bennett, which he is willing to sell for 81 per pound. The same man says he has 10,000 pounds of corn and twenty or thirty horses at the same place, with which he proposes to organize a sled train into Dawson. Capt. Robinson says himself that his opinion is that the difficulty of reaching Dawson has been very much exaggerated and that a good army officer could make his way in with the expedition, and that Montana horses should be used. Mr. Sifton, minister of the interior for Canada, says that the only practical route to Dawson City is what is known as the White Pass, or more commonly called the "lake route," commencing at Skaguay, on the Lynn canal. He states that they have eighty-five men in the territory and expect to have fifty more at Skaguay on or before January 5. They have twenty tons of supplies now stored at Skaguay for transportation over the pass, to which will be added ten tons within the next ten days for transportation over the pass. The Canadian authorities have a post at Lake Bennett, and one at Tagish, at which place twenty men are stationed, and a post at White Horse rapids and two posts intervening between the latter point and Fort Selkirk. It is the intention of the Canadian government to have a detachment of 250 men in the territory within the next thirty days. The detachment will be ready to leave Skaguay on the 15th proximo, but the minister has consented to hold the expedition that they may accompany the expedition of the war department, which will leave Skaguay on or before February 1. The government has consented to grant escorts to our expedition, providing co-operation cannot be consummated. Government duties up on all supplies sent in under military control will be waived by the Canadian government. The minister was over the pass in October. He states that the government will grant our expedition the use of their posts on the route and grant all other facilities to our expedition, over their territory. CHANGE OF NAME.—The wholesale fruit firm of Carnell, Carter & Co., recently established in this city, has been changed and will hereafter be known as the Pacific Fruit & Supply Company. The office and warehouses, however, have not been changed and the new firm will continue business at 205 Commercial street, with C. Marsh as manager and P. A. Karnell, secretary.

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Railroad roadbeds are now assessed as real estate. To raise or lower the county assessment returns of railroad mileage valuation of class 2 of the real estate of the county, comprising all land and improvements, except city lots and improvements thereon. For instance, Jackson county assesses the main line of the Southern Pacific at \$10,000 a mile and Marion county at \$4000 a mile. No equalization is possible by the state board under the law without raising or lowering the entire class of real estate. The law was purposely or ignorantly left in this condition that must work hardship and injustice in the end to both railroad and other property. This problem the state board has been laboring with today. Mr. Watt for the O. R. & N., Mr. Sedgwick for the Northern Pacific and Judge Crowell for Jackson county, made arguments on the question of railroad assessments. The Southern Pacific railroad company made no showing. Mr. Sedgwick said his assessment of track was satisfactory. He protested against an assessment of \$1.25 an acre in Gilliam county. He did not consider they were worth \$1.25 an acre and it had been offered at 35 cents an acre and could not be sold at that price. He said they had about 12,000 acres there. The board could not change this item. The remedy was with the county board. The average of such unimproved land was \$1.40 in that county. In Morrow county that class of land was assessed for 40 cents an acre. Mr. Crowell's argument gave figures of railroad assessment in California and Washington and a summary of his remarks is given below. Mr. Watt spoke for the O. R. & N. lines and stated that his company was perfectly satisfied with their assessments. He had labored to impress upon assessors that the property should be treated as a whole at a uniform price of \$4000 a mile for the main line. This was the valuation in Idaho and part of Washington. The rolling stock was put at \$500 a mile. JUDGE CROWELL'S ADDRESS. County Judge W. S. Crowell, of Jackson county, appeared before the board by appointment this morning and made a very pleasant address. Judge Crowell is a large man in every respect, possessing in appearance, dignified and an effective talker. After extending thanks to the board for the courtesies of a hearing, he answered some questions of members. He explained a shortage of 1,200 acres appearing on the roll this year as a result of the inexperience of the assessor, who is serving his first term, and the area of Jackson county being so large makes such mistake quite possible. He said there was quite a difference this year from last year on account of the different interpretations placed by different assessors upon the terms "tiltable" and "non-tiltable" land, the previous assessor taking the position that all land cleared of timber and chapparal so that it might be cultivated and cropped should be classed as "tiltable," while the present assessor and the county judge do not so hold, and the present assessor went a little too far in the other direction. Judge Crowell explained the assessment of railroad road bed, which is valued in that county at \$10,000 a mile and told that the Southern Pacific company had held up Jackson county by injunction from collecting the use of their posts on the route and grant all other facilities to our expedition, over their territory.

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He compared the mode of assessing railroads in California with that of Oregon, showing that our sister state on the south knows far better how to make railroads pay their just share of taxation than we do and that we should derive a good lesson therefrom. Judge Crowell said a great many things to open the eyes of the state board, and displayed a profound knowledge of the subject in hand, as well as an earnest desire to see justice done. SOCIETY NO. 100 BOOK. The young people of Unity Guild gave their first dancing party at the church Thursday evening and it was indeed an enjoyable affair, reflecting great credit on the management. The best of music was furnished by Polley's orchestra and the light fantastic was tripped by about thirty couples until a late hour to the infinite delight of those who were fortunate enough to hold invitations. The guild contemplates giving these delightful dancing parties once a month throughout the winter season and to which invitations are formally issued. Master Arthur and Miss Nellie, children of Mr. and Mrs. E. N. Derby, most acceptably entertained a host of their young friends at their pleasant suburban home in Morningside, Thursday evening. The young host and hostess proved themselves ideal entertainers, for their guests enjoyed themselves very much. Games and other diversions served to pass the evening most pleasantly. Refreshments were served at a seasonable hour to permit the young people to depart for their respective homes via the "last car," which arrived too soon. 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Prof. Scobie has engaged to serve the First Congregational church as musical director. Mrs. Holland will sing with him at present. Prof. Scobie has been in the state since last February and has made quite a reputation as a choir master. He will also continue to train the Unity church choir. Saturday afternoon the Ladies' auxiliary of the Y. M. C. A. will hold the usual New Year's reception in the parlors of the association. The affair promises to be one of the pleasantest in the history of the organization. A splendid musical program has been prepared for the occasion, which will be rendered commencing at 4 o'clock, the reception to follow the conclusion. Following is the program arranged: Piano solo—Miss Nettie Beckner. Vocal Duet—One Flag, One Country Still, Misses Mabel Heritage and Nina Bushnell. Piano Duet—Miss Shelton and Mrs. Joe H. Albert. Vocal Solo—"Bethlehem's Guiding Star," Miss Anna Atwood with violin obligato by Mr. Carl Denton. Violin Solo—Selected, Miss Nellie Brown. Vocal Trio—Miss Heulst, Miss White and Mrs. W. F. Babcock. Vocal Solo—"My Dreams," Miss Lillian Roblin, with violin obligato by Mr. Carl Denton. Banjo Duet—Misses Tillson and Junk. There was an informal reunion of the young people residing in the vicinity of Willard, held at the spacious farm home of Alexander Thompson Thursday evening. The young people spent the evening very pleasantly in various games and in fact did not depart for their homes "until the morning." At a proper hour the hostesses, the Misses Thompson, served an elegant luncheon to which the guests did ample justice. Those present were: Misses Eva Patton, Lida Thompson, Kate Pooler, Josephine Hubbard, Rozanna Thompson, Gertrude Hubbard, Maude Pooler, Edith Jones, Orla Thompson and Sydney Bates, of Portland; Messrs. Bert Geer, Archibald Bowen, Will Jones, Haris Thompson, Will Short, William Haberer, Carl Griffith, Otto Metschan, John Shanks, Bliss Darby, Quince Jarvis, Earl Pooler and Wm. Trullinger. 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Difficulties of the Law in Equalizing the Values.

They wiggled in and wiggled out, leaving the people still in doubt. Whether the snake that made the track, was coming forth or going back." "It was the same old S. P. railroad company," said the judge, "with that arrangement of hell, Collis P. Huntington at its head." Judge Crowell showed that according to statistics, cost of building all the railroads in Oregon was \$90,000,000, while the assessed valuation of said railroad last year was only \$5,673,134, or a little over 6 per cent of their cost, while the farmers and business men of the state are paying taxes upon a valuation of 60 to 75 per cent of the full cost or value of their property and he claimed that this was "an unanswerable, stinging wrong to the people of this state," and that it ought not to be borne any longer. He compared the mode of assessing railroads in California with that of Oregon, showing that our sister state on the south knows far better how to make railroads pay their just share of taxation than we do and that we should derive a good lesson therefrom. Judge Crowell said a great many things to open the eyes of the state board, and displayed a profound knowledge of the subject in hand, as well as an earnest desire to see justice done. SOCIETY NO. 100 BOOK. The young people of Unity Guild gave their first dancing party at the church Thursday evening and it was indeed an enjoyable affair, reflecting great credit on the management. The best of music was furnished by Polley's orchestra and the light fantastic was tripped by about thirty couples until a late hour to the infinite delight of those who were fortunate enough to hold invitations. The guild contemplates giving these delightful dancing parties once a month throughout the winter season and to which invitations are formally issued. Master Arthur and Miss Nellie, children of Mr. and Mrs. E. N. Derby, most acceptably entertained a host of their young friends at their pleasant suburban home in Morningside, Thursday evening. The young host and hostess proved themselves ideal entertainers, for their guests enjoyed themselves very much. Games and other diversions served to pass the evening most pleasantly. Refreshments were served at a seasonable hour to permit the young people to depart for their respective homes via the "last car," which arrived too soon. Those to whom invitations were addressed were as follows: Bertha Snell, Carrie Hurst, Cora Blosser, Connie Lewis, Eole Klein, Ella Rineman, Esther Nelson, Ethel Knight, Gertrude Riddell, Grace Ilidge, Helen Sutherland, Leo Nicklin, Lois Coshaw, Minnie Sherman, Mina Letz, Maud McKay, Meta Klein, Mollie Johnson, Maud Morrison, Minnie De Long, Marian Gray, Sylvia Knight, Nettie Beckner, Nora Anderson, Stella Hurst, Winnie Ridgen, Winnie Bellinger, Constance Holland, Benoit Holland, Edith St. Helens, Jessie Wann, Hattie Ruedt, Carrie Willis, Fannie Lane, Agnes Gilbert, Ruth Gabrielson, Anna Bieson, Lena Huton, Blanche Illidge, and Hettie Newcirk; Claude Knight, Joe Adolph, Sam Adolph, Jake Bernardi, Chester Parvin, Clyde Brock, Chauncey Bishop, Dennis Morrison, Earl Riddell, Everett Anderson, Gates Cochran, Gaines Ford, Jerry King, Johnnie Brophy, Kinney Miller, Leon Davidson, Laurie Hamilton, Louis Judson, Felix Hamilton, Ira Hamilton, George Judson, Howard Damon, Roy Burton, Roy Damon, Ralph Rossell and Rookley Hodgkin. Prof. Scobie has engaged to serve the First Congregational church as musical director. Mrs. Holland will sing with him at present. Prof. Scobie has been in the state since last February and has made quite a reputation as a choir master. He will also continue to train the Unity church choir. Saturday afternoon the Ladies' auxiliary of the Y. M. C. A. will hold the usual New Year's reception in the parlors of the association. The affair promises to be one of the pleasantest in the history of the organization. A splendid musical program has been prepared for the occasion, which will be rendered commencing at 4 o'clock, the reception to follow the conclusion. Following is the program arranged: Piano solo—Miss Nettie Beckner. Vocal Duet—One Flag, One Country Still, Misses Mabel Heritage and Nina Bushnell. Piano Duet—Miss Shelton and Mrs. Joe H. Albert. Vocal Solo—"Bethlehem's Guiding Star," Miss Anna Atwood with violin obligato by Mr. Carl Denton. Violin Solo—Selected, Miss Nellie Brown. Vocal Trio—Miss Heulst, Miss White and Mrs. W. F. Babcock. Vocal Solo—"My Dreams," Miss Lillian Roblin, with violin obligato by Mr. Carl Denton. Banjo Duet—Misses Tillson and Junk. There was an informal reunion of the young people residing in the vicinity of Willard, held at the spacious farm home of Alexander Thompson Thursday evening. The young people spent the evening very pleasantly in various games and in fact did not depart for their homes "until the morning." At a proper hour the hostesses, the Misses Thompson, served an elegant luncheon to which the guests did ample justice. Those present were: Misses Eva Patton, Lida Thompson, Kate Pooler, Josephine Hubbard, Rozanna Thompson, Gertrude Hubbard, Maude Pooler, Edith Jones, Orla Thompson and Sydney Bates, of Portland; Messrs. Bert Geer, Archibald Bowen, Will Jones, Haris Thompson, Will Short, William Haberer, Carl Griffith, Otto Metschan, John Shanks, Bliss Darby, Quince Jarvis, Earl Pooler and Wm. Trullinger. Thursday afternoon Mrs. Lena Breyman and Miss Jessie Breyman gave an afternoon party at their delightful home, corner of Court and Church streets, in honor of Mrs. Rudolph Prael and Mrs. A. L. McCully, both of Portland. The large spacious rooms of the Breyman home were artistically decorated in smilax and mistletoe. A pleasant diversion was offered the assembled guests in the form of a game entitled "A Penny for Your Thoughts," and from which considerable amusement was experienced. A penny was attached, by a ribbon, to neatly arranged cards upon which were printed sixteen questions, pertaining to the penny. A prize was offered for the one who should succeed in answering the greatest number of questions correctly. Four ladies had equal claims on the prize, each answering all of the questions correctly. The drawing of straws resulted in awarding the prize to Mrs. A. T. Gilbert. For instance one of the questions with its answer was "In what way does the penny represent a messenger?" Answer: "It is one of them." The guests were treated to some excellent vocal music during the afternoon and at a later hour a delicious luncheon was served, such as only the hostesses are capable of preparing. Those enjoying the hospitality of the Misses Breyman are as follows: Mrs. Paul H. Sroat, Mrs. F. B. Anderson, Mrs. R. P. Boise Jr., Mrs. Geo. Rose, Mrs. Geo. Rogers, Mrs. Rudolph Prael, Mrs. A. L. McCully, Mrs. Frank Waters, Mrs. L. F. Griffith, Mrs. W. S. Dunaway, Mrs. C. D. Gabrielson, Mrs. R. F. Meredith, Mrs. Wm. Brown, Mrs. Claud Gateh, Mrs. A. T. Gilbert, Mrs. R. B. Fleming, Mrs. Joe Krause, Mrs. O. E. Krause, Mrs. Joe Albert, Mrs. Jos. Baumgartner, Mrs. C. A. Gray, Mrs. A. J. Wagner, Mrs. R. J. Hendricks, Mrs. J. D. Sutherland, Mrs. J. C. Griffith, Mrs. E. A. Pierce, Mrs. S. M. Stock, Mrs. Ray Gilbert, Mrs. I. L. Patterson, Mrs. W. T. Bell, Mrs. Geo. Burnett, Mrs. Scott Bozorth, Mrs. W. T. Williamson, Mrs. W. H. Byrd, Mrs. H. W. Myer, Mrs. Ted Piper, of Seattle, Mrs. J. H. Hickford, Mrs. Ed. Weller, Mrs. S. Foster, Mrs. J. H. McNary, Mrs. J. H. Cavanaugh, Mrs. A. N. Moores, Mrs. Max Buren, Mrs. O. West, Mrs. E. M. Lafore, Mrs. F. Wagner of Ashland; Miss Anna Metschan, Miss Ethel Cusick, Miss Edna Moody, Miss Hirsch, Miss Lou Hirsch, Miss Byrd, Miss Bertha Byrd, Miss Claudia Gilbert, Miss Blanche Bell, Miss George Gilmer, Miss Lucy Williams, Miss Frank Richardson, Miss Lella Waters, Miss Gussie Giesey, Miss Gertie Hirsch, Miss Gladys Byrne, Miss Mae Boise, Miss Hortense Levy, Miss Jeannette Meredith, Miss Lizzie Holverson, Miss Margaret Kinsey and Miss Benson. The young people's society of the German Baptist church on north Cottage street, will hold its annual watch meeting tonight. An appropriate program will be rendered, at the close of which the assembly will resolve itself into a watch night prayer meeting. Rev. C. Wachtel, of Eugene, will be present to take part in the exercises. All are invited. FROM MACLEAY. Golden Wedding of Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Hartley fittingly celebrated. "Mountain View," the beautiful country home of Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Hartley, near Macleay, was the scene of a memorable event on Wednesday, the 29th inst., it being the fiftieth anniversary of the marriage of the worthy couple. About fifty relatives and friends gathered to do honor to the occasion, and the day will be long remembered by all present. Edmund Waller Hartley, was born in Harden County, Kentucky, February 6, 1825, but at an early age removed to Jefferson county, Illinois. Ann Eliza Whitlaw was born in Laurel county, Kentucky, October 23, 1829. At an early age, she also, with her parents, removed to a farm near Benton, Franklin county, Illinois. There she and Mr. Hartley were married, Wednesday, December 29, 1847. They at once went to a home prepared for them in Jefferson county, and there they resided continuously until 1865. On April 4, 1865, in company with several others, they started with their ox teams for the long and perilous drive across plains and mountains, to Oregon. They arrived here on October 17th, of the same year, and at once moved onto the place on which they still reside. Twelve children have been born to them, three of whom, two daughters and one son, died in infancy. Of the nine living, all but one were at home to help to do honor to the memorable day. Charles L. of Elk City, was unable to attend. At noon those present were invited to the dining room, where the tables were fairly groaning under their weight of good things lunched for the "inner man." The day was spent in social converse and music, both vocal and instrumental. The house was beautifully decorated for the occasion with evergreens, vines and potted and cut flowers. Among those present were the following relatives: M. Jane Hartly, Macleay; Emily Hartley Clora, husband and four daughters, Flora, Nellie, Laylana and ———, Portland; El

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