THE POST-INTELLIGENCER.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:

Delivered by City Carrier.

Daily and Sunday, per month	$0 75
Daily and Sunday, six months, if paid in advance	4 00
Daily and Sunday, one year, if paid in advance	7 50
Sunday edition, per month	25
Sunday edition, one year	2 00

Persons desiring the Post-Intelligencer served at their homes or change of delivery can secure it by postal card request or order through telephone Main 7. When delivery is irregular, please make immediate complaint to this office.

BY MAIL, PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.

Daily and Sunday, per month	$0 75
Daily and Sunday, six months	4 00
Daily and Sunday, one year	7 50
Sunday edition, one month	25
Sunday edition, six months	1 25
Sunday edition, one year	2 00
Sunday and Weekly, one year	2 50
Weekly edition, one year	1 00
Weekly edition, six months	50

OFFICES:

Seattle, Second avenue and Cherry street.
New York, rooms 13, 14, 15 Tribune bldg.
Chicago, 317 Chamber of Commerce.
Tacoma, 1303 Pacific avenue.

Give postoffice address in full, including county and state.

Remit by express, money order, draft or in registered letter, at our risk.

Telephones—Business Office, Main 7. Editorial Rooms, Main 382.

Address all communications and remittances to the POST-INTELLIGENCER PUBLISHING CO., Seattle, Wash.

A GUARANTEE.

The Post-Intelligencer hereby guarantees its advertisers a bona fide paid circulation, Daily, Weekly and Sunday, double that of any other newspaper published in the state of Washington. Advertising contracts will be made subject to this guarantee.

CITY OFFICIAL PAPER.

SEATTLE, FRIDAY, JAN. 7.

INTERCESSION IN SOUTH AMERICA.

The promptness of the government in sending a warship to watch American interests in Uruguay may have more than a passing effect. It is, perhaps, wise for this government not to interfere actively in the affairs of the South American republics, but it is very certain that if there was a show of determination to interpose whenever a revolution was threatened, there would be greater stability in those countries.

The conflict now waging in Uruguay is one in which the congress is opposing the candidacy of a president who has become exceedingly popular. The election rests with the present congress or chambers, as the legislative body of that country is called, but there has been a popular uprising in behalf of the present president and there are indications that it is the purpose of at least one of the factions to have him dissolve the chambers and declare himself dictator.

The United States government is sufficiently interested to protect the people against the violation of their laws. It is well known that the bulk of the people do not favor these revolutions and they are as helpless as the Cubans when the politicians set aside the laws and stir up strife. There may not be the same excuse for interfering in a civil war as there is where the war is waged by a foreign power like Spain, but so far as the interests of this hemisphere are concerned the principle is the same.

It is to be hoped that some untoward incident will happen compelling the United States commander of the naval forces in the Rio Plate to land some marines and give the Uruguayans a taste of our strength and authority. If that shall have a good effect our intercession will be invited whenever another outbreak should occur.

COMMERCE AND INDUSTRIES.

Opposition has been made to the proposed creation of a department of commerce and industries. It is urged against it that we are following too much the example of European governments and are creating new high-salaried offices. One Eastern paper even sneers at the growing tendency to use the word ambassador instead of minister, when referring to our representatives at foreign courts. One criticism is as paltry as the other. There is more than one meaning to the word minister, while ambassador means only one thing, and its use is fully as much justified as that of minister. But what objection can there be to adopting a good plan because it has been found successful elsewhere? Austria, France and Prussia have their ministers of commerce, and England has a similar authority known as the Board of Trade, which represents the commercial interests of its people. The same interests exist in this country, the same necessity for their regulation exists, and there has gradually grown up a sort of bureau in the department of the secretary of the treasury. When our trade was in its infancy its volume did not justify the creation of a separate office, but now our foreign and internal trade is so great that it makes demands upon the secretary which cannot be met, and something has to be neglected.

The measure creating the new office was introduced into the senate by Senator Frye last spring. His bill proposes that there shall be at Washington an executive department to be known as the Department of Commerce and Industries, and that a secretary of commerce and industries shall be appointed by the president, as any other cabinet minister is, who shall receive the salary which other members of the cabinet receive, and shall rank with them as the head of one of the great government departments. The department thus created is to have general jurisdiction over the foreign and internal commerce of the United States, except in the matter of the collection of revenues and the administration of customs and internal revenue laws. It is also to have jurisdiction over all matters relating to the manufacturing interests of the country, including the extension of foreign markets for the same, and the increase of trade and trade facilities with foreign countries. To this general administrative duty is to be added the control of the following subdepartments or bureaus, namely, the life-saving service, the lighthouse board, the marine hospital service, the bureau of steamboat inspection, the bureau of navigation, the United States shipping commissioners, the bureau of immigration, the United States coast and geodetic survey, and the bureau of statistics, services that are now controlled by the department of the treasury. It is proposed also to transfer to the administrative charge of the secretary of commerce the department of labor, and to also transfer the bureau of statistics from the department of state.

Another suggested change of considerable importance is the transfer from the department of state of the consular bureau and the several consular officers of the Federal government, including consuls general, consuls, commercial agents, their deputies and clerks, and all other officers of the government residing in foreign countries and charged with the duties of facilitating and promoting the commerce of the United States with the countries to which they are accredited. There is in this last transfer the qualification that, whenever consular officers are required to act in diplomatic capacity in matters not directly connected with the commercial interests of the country, they shall continue to report to the department of state and to act under the direction of the secretary of state.

An objection has been made to it on the ground that no such office was considered necessary by the founders of the government. Nor was the department of agriculture, which is a branch of our industries and commerce in a sense, of far less magnitude and diversity than those which are to be brought within the scope of the new department. The only consideration which should be given to this objection might be in arranging to make agriculture a branch of the new department.

Precedent is found for the creation of a new department in several instances. The navy was not separated from the army until 1798, during the administration of President John Adams, and it was not until 1849 that the office of the secretary of the interior was created. There was a postmaster general as early as any other office, but the incumbent was not considered a cabinet officer until 1829, and the office of secretary of agriculture is not ten years old yet. The importance of the last named office has only just been realized since John Wilson demonstrated his capacity. A much more serious objection is the failure to bring the railroads under the domination of the new department by making the interstate commerce commission a subordinate branch of it. This omission will no doubt be rectified before the bill becomes a law.

NATIONAL CIVIL SERVICE.

The tinkering with the civil service system has begun in congress and it is plainly to be seen that the object is to evade the restrictions thrown about some of the higher and better paid offices. Probably the concession will have to be made to the illogical but firmly intrenched notion that to the victor belongs the spoils. The Republican party has been trying for years to educate the people up to a higher conception of citizenship and of self-government, but selfish interests have always blocked the way. Whatever the theory may be, there is no doubt that the public will be better served and be better protected by requiring that candidates for office shall demonstrate their fitness for the duties they propose to undertake.

A plausible argument is that the higher offices are left out of the reach of the system, while only those offices to be filled by poor men are brought within its scope. The poverty question has nothing whatever to do with it. We have not reached the point when it will be claimed that the government is a charitable institution, insuring employment to those who cannot get it in the ordinary ranks of business. A poor man has no more business than a rich man in a public office unless he is competent to do good work. If he is competent to do that work he will not be afraid of being put to the test before he goes into office, as well as afterwards. It is well known that public books in not only national but state and municipal governments are in a shocking condition because of the unfitness of the official for the position his political pull enabled him to obtain. It does not require a very elaborate system of examination to determine whether a man will make a good recording clerk. If it is made essential that an applicant for such an office shall be a clear, distinct and rapid writer that is all that is needed, except that his habits shall be such as to insure good service. The principle is sound, but the objection would be well taken if the rules were so unreasonable that a man seeking a merely clerical position should be subjected to an examination in mathematics or of European geography. So with other branches of the government. If common sense is used in the preparation of examination papers no applicant need shrink from what is no more than being asked to show that a man understands the business he proposes to engage in.

There are many offices, such as those of ambassador, consul and postmaster and others, wherein it would be impossible to apply civil service rules. But for these offices character and public reputation are essential; they are so conspicuous and those likely to be appointed so well known, that there would be an expression of public indignation if unfit men were selected. For the higher offices of this character the public relies upon the good judgment and the good faith of the men it selects to make the appointments. A president of the United States or a United States senator, or a cabinet officer, may reasonably be expected to have a sense of responsibility in nominating or recommending men for places of exceptional standing. This is a safeguard which is better than any law; but in the minor offices the danger lies. The same scrutiny cannot be exercised. And there is a disposition to believe that it does not matter much if a man is not quite what he should be so long as he is a good political worker. There is every reason, therefore, why the service should be protected in the minor offices.

Edward Ratcliffe, the idol of the New York matinee girl, has been sentenced to the penitentiary for six months for brutally beating his wife, a wealthy girl, who had been fascinated by his appearance on the stage and the romantic manner in which he made stage love. Many actors are good husbands, but they usually play the heavy villain on the stage and do not have their heads turned by the adulation of silly girls. It is an old story, that of the fascination actors of the romantic school possess for thoughtless and inexperienced girls, but notwithstanding the frequent exposure of the misery following such matches young women who should, if they do not, know better, continue to add to the roll of marital unhappiness.

President McKinley has been compelled to ask the visiting public to be a little more considerate in their calls upon him. He has been unable to leave his desk until nightfall for two weeks on account of the demands made upon him. This revives the necessity for providing the president with an official residence apart from his business office. He says it would be a relief to have to walk to the White House morning and evening, and that is a very modest way of dealing with the subject. The White House has entirely outgrown the conditions that existed when that building was devoted to its present purpose. It should be remodeled and made suitable only for the transaction of official business and for state ceremonials.

The war in India seems to have closed for the time and the British troops are returning from the Afridi passes. The complete submission of the warring tribes is claimed, but England has to deal with a treacherous foe on the Indian frontier, and it will be a long time before it will be safe to leave the line unguarded. Russian influence is always to be feared, and if it is decided to harass Great Britain in India the roving bands will soon be summoned together again and the same old tactics repeated. The border tribes are born raiders and fighters, and will be only too willing to respond to any call that promises a reasonably sure opportunity for plunder.

W. J. Bryan has been visiting Mexico; that is, he went there in a palace car and was received by the dignitaries and had a delightful time dining with the president and being handsomely entertained by officials. He did not go into the interior or go among the poorer working classes in the rural districts to inquire into the industrial conditions, except as he could learn of them from the great employers. Now he proposes to publish his views on the country, just as English globe-trotters write a book on the United States after a three weeks' visit. He will have a book to sell, however, so that his visit will not be altogether unprofitable to himself.

Maryland Republicans seem to be throwing away their chances of electing by a factional fight. The delegations seem to be almost hopelessly split and there is even reason to fear that the state may be thrown back into the hands of Senator Gorman, from whose bossship it was recently so gallantly rescued. The contest has become so bitter between Judge McComas and Malster that in any event it looks as if both would be beaten.

Henry Watterson has been making a forecast of the next presidential election, and he is inclined to believe that if Bryan is again nominated the conservative Democrats will not submit but put another candidate in the field. He believes that if Bryan is nominated, with no other Democratic candidate in the field, the party will again be overwhelmingly defeated.

Germany has thrown off all disguise and now boldly admits that her purpose in seizing Chinese territory was not to secure indemnity for the murder of two missionaries but to have a basis for extending her commerce in that country. Had England been guilty of such a high-handed proceeding what a howl would have gone up from the jingoes!

While we deprecate any unfairness on the part of the Canadians in their efforts to secure a share of the Klondike trade, we can admire the enterprise they are displaying to advertise their wares and the advantages of Canadian ports as starting points. The more active they are the more active we must be.

KEROSENE FOR BALDNESS.

Some time ago it came to pass
That, glancing in my looking glass,
As one will do, I was appalled
To find that I was growing bald.
I murmured there
A silent prayer
That I be spared the hapless fate
To wear through life a barren pate,
A picnic ground for flying pests
And target for ill-mannered jests.
So tonics I
Did quickly buy,
And daily used them one by one,
As many other fools have done,
Until I ran across one Deane,
Who recommended kerosene;
For 'twill restore
Your hair, he swore.
And then, abandoning the rest,
I gave that oil a thorough test,
A fact I did not mention when
My barber, like those thrifty men,
Announced that I
Should singeing try.
Said he, "Now singeing, without doubt,
Will keep the hair from falling out."
But on my hair his flaming torch
Did something more than merely scorch.
I thought of Deane
And kerosene,
For though my hair was thin, 'twas tough
To have it go in one brief puff.
That barber did me no good turn
In thinking I had "hair to burn."
—New York Sun.

WHAT GERMANY THINKS OF KLONDIKE.

The German people, as is well known, are very conservative and slow to believe in anything not fully substantiated by facts. Their skepticism led them to place but small credence in the tales of untold riches when they first came from the new wonderland. But gradually the news from Alaska received confirmation, and as soon as the far-reaching consequences of the gold discovery were duly impressed on the minds of the German people, many of the most adventurous appeared eager to rush to Alaska at once. Fortunately for the welfare of such fellows all the leading German journals were prompt in cautioning their readers against undue haste by pointing out the hardships of an Alaskan winter, and by demonstrating the absolute uselessness of arriving at the gold regions before summer. On the other hand, many unscrupulous agents of steamboat lines, particularly of those starting from English ports, sent their circulars broadcast throughout Germany, and made it appear as if nothing was needed but a passage on one of their boats and "a little money" to take the person from New York to Alaska to insure for would-be gold-seekers a first-class opportunity to become rich. But the Germans had seen such circulars before, and knew how little they were to be relied on. With their usual good sense and business enterprise they now commenced to investigate the matter thoroughly, with the result that they decided to wait till March or April before making any move in the matter further than to prepare themselves with the necessary funds and looking for congenial traveling companions. At the present time the people of Hamburg and Berlin are as well posted about Alaska as the people of Chicago and New York, and there is little danger that any of them will go to the Klondike without being duly prepared for it.

The latest advices from Germany were dated in Hamburg December 14, and stated that, as far as is now known in that city, about four hundred men will start from there for the Klondike in the spring. A party of twenty-seven Klondikers were to take steamer at Bremen on December 28, and are about due in New York. These men, it is said, have made arrangements to go to San Francisco to buy their outfits in that city, and to start for Alaska as soon as they can secure suitable passage. All other parties which leave Germany later in the season will be strongly advised to go to Skaguay by way of Seattle, and not to buy their outfits till they come here. The writer of this article is correspondent for the leading papers of Hamburg, Berlin, Cologne and Vienna, and has demonstrated the advantages of Seattle in a number of articles. Besides, a party at Hamburg who takes great interest in Klondike affairs, and whose advice is sought by all who intend to go there, is fully impressed with the importance of Seattle as the best last starting point on the Pacific coast.

Among the 400 men previously mentioned are a large number of miners from the Harz mountain and from Silesian mining districts. None of these, it is true, has any experience in gold mining, but it is believed that they will give a good account of themselves, as they are known to be trustworthy, frugal, and accustomed to hard work and rough climates. They will come here in small parties and each party will be accompanied by one or more men who have been in America before, speak English fluently, and are conversant with the customs here. Every man who wishes to join one of the different parties must show that he possesses at least 1,800 marks (about $423), before leaving the German port. It is calculated that the steerage passage from Bremen or Hamburg costs $40, everything included, and the railroad fare from New York or Baltimore to Seattle $50, so that each man will have about $330 on his arrival here.

All men provide themselves in Germany with several pairs of heavy shoes, good underclothes, flannel shirts, overalls and such things, and it is thought that the $330 will suffice to buy provisions, tools, the balance of their outfit, pay for their transportation to the Klondike, and leave them at least $100 cash in hand when they arrive there. No matter how that may be, I think the men will manage to get along nicely, particularly as many of the men will have more money than the amount stated. Should these people be able to make a good showing a large number of their fellow-countrymen is certain to follow them next year.

I have also been informed that several hundred men from Austria intend going to Alaska next spring. Those I have heard from belong exclusively to the provinces of Bohemia and Moravia, and there may be others I did not hear of as yet. They are said to be mostly poor people and are now trying to raise the necessary funds from relatives and friends. Many of them may not succeed in getting the money, yet it appears that quite a number, say from 150 to 200 men, will come here from the different Austrian provinces. As I shall be promptly notified of all movements in this respect, a few weeks from now will probably place me in the position to say something more on this subject. W. L.

FLAX CULTURE IN WASHINGTON.

Christopher, King Co., Jan. 5, 1898.

To the Editor: In your editorial of Sunday, referring to the above (and beets), the latter portion of the article suggested experimenting with an acre which "would put the farmers in possession of an experience which would be very valuable."

Permit me to say that near Orillia, in King county, this last season William Cochran put in on his land four acres of flax from imported seed, and he, I believe, placed the care and cultivation of the same in the hands of a Mr. McGee, who has had many years' experience in Ireland in this industry.

In forty-one days from sowing the flax attained the height of thirty-nine inches, and I, with Mr. McGee, left a sample at the Chamber of Commerce in Seattle, where we compared it with Barbour & Company's Irish samples and although our sample had not yet bloomed, it was the equal in length to the full-grown Irish. When mature it grew to the height of forty-five inches. The grower and myself were anxious, if possible, to obtain a "scutching" machine from the agricultural department so that after "retting," it could be handled to the best advantage. I applied to the department through the Fiber Investigating Office, but found no machines were to be had, neither does it appear that any satisfactory "scutcher" has been yet brought out, and the department forwarded the bulletin No. 27 with a request for a sample to be returned, which was done.

Here it is necessary for me, I think, to say that the quality of the water is a most material element in fixing the value of the flax, and inasmuch as only primitive methods can be adopted for retting and scutching, the sample necessarily suffered.

In November I received a letter from Mr. Charles R. Dodge, the special agent in charge of the fiber investigations, and, referring to the samples sent and received by him, he says:

"It shows good growth and a fair product, though the extracted filaments do not test quite as strong as from some samples I have seen from Washington. I thing with proper retting, however, it would give a fine quality of flax fiber. The trouble with the greater part of the flax fiber that has been sent from Washington is that it has not been properly retted, and lacks the characteristics of good 'nature' retted flax, such as softness, oiliness and what flax experts call 'life.' It may be the water, or it may arise from lack of skill in the operation of retting, but the fact that Washington flax, retted in Ireland, has given fiber worth $350 per ton, is proof that you can grow fine flax."

I learn from Mr. Cochran that about half a ton of flax was raised per acre, and that the cost of production is considerably below the price named above.

It may be that in this valuable crop and for which there is almost a limitless demand, we have a rival (both in profit and as a business enterprise) to the faded (pro tem) hop industry, and every encouragement should be extended to any and all progressive farmers who are trying to open out such a remunerative and at present open field. It's the profit that "takes the wrinkles from the brow," causes the radiant smile, pays off mortgages, back taxes and encumbrances, and converts unbelievers and backsliders to sound, healthy Republican principles. Wheat has done it this year, perhaps flax will ere long. JAMES HART.

Tax Reform.

New York Commercial Advertiser.

Whether true or untrue that Governor Black will make the subject of general tax revision the principal feature of his forthcoming message, there are few questions in this state more worthy of executive or public attention. The subject, however, is a large one, which cannot be settled off-hand. The tax laws of New York are formed upon no sort of scientific principle, and are little better than a jumble of conflicting attempts, made from time to time, at securing equality of taxation, with this result almost as far away as ever. These laws represent efforts of one class of taxpayers to shift their just share of public burdens upon some other class. We tax inheritances, corporations and the like to relieve owners of real estate, and then the latter fight among themselves to escape real estate taxation by the process called equalization. Personal property in some counties escapes taxation almost entirely, while in other counties endeavor is made to tax it to the last ascertainable dollar. All this cannot fail to work gross injustice. How to correct this wrong and bring something like system out of chaos is a difficult problem. The only practical way would seem to be the appointment of a commission of experts to study the subject patiently and exhaustively and report its conclusions to the legislature. This would, at least, reduce the matter to shape for intelligent general discussion.

The Danish West Indies.

The proposition for the United States government to obtain possession of the Danish West Indies comes naturally now, in view of the projects for annexation of islands in another quarter. It is not a new enterprise. Secretary Seward attempted it thirty years ago, and the project was then so riddled in a speech of Charles Sumner in the senate that it had few supporters in that body. The considerations that Mr. Sumner then presented against it were very strong, and it is not at all probable that their weight has been lessened by the lapse of time. The late Edward L. Pierce had occasion to investigate the subject in preparing his biography of Charles Sumner, and he subsequently published a pamphlet in which he abundantly vindicated both the views of Mr. Sumner and his manner of enforcing them.

Is High License a Failure?

Pacific Prohibitionist.

South Carolina will go back to the only effectual method of controlling the liquor traffic—high license, and possibly local option.—Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

High license has been a disastrous failure so far as taking the liquor traffic out of politics. High license Chicago is the worst saloon-ridden city in America.

Let Some One Nudge Hannis

Kansas City Journal.

The inexcusable cowardice of the McKinley administration in not rushing over and grabbing a slice of China doesn't seem to have occurred to the Hon. Hannis Taylor as yet.

THE STATE PRESS.

Everett Times: The Republicans of Everett have started out on a new line. Now let them stand together and success will crown their efforts.

Stanwood Press: In drawing up your New Year resolutions do not forget to add one pledging yourself to better support the newspaper that helps you and all the community by helping to build the place and to add to its attractiveness.

Olympian: James Hamilton Lewis is right for once, anyhow. He is in favor of such legislation as will open to settlement the Puyallup Indian reservation. In justification of his position it is incidentally cited that such legislation as was needed to that end was enacted by congress five years ago. It is gratifying to an admiring constituency to know that Mr. Lewis will not move for the repeal of the act when he learns of it.

Port Townsend Leader: There is a growing feeling all over the country and in Washington in favor of the adoption by congress of President McKinley's simple currency plan, in which he proposes that the treasury and the United States notes which are redeemed in gold shall be held in the treasury, and that national banks be permitted to increase their circulation up to the par value of the bonds held in deposit to secure circulation. The discussion of the more elaborate plans which have been offered shows that they could be adopted in view of the fact that the Republicans have not a clear majority in the senate.

NUGGETS.

A raw Scottish lad joined the Volunteers, and on the first parade day his sister and mother came to see the corps. At the march-past Jock was singled out by his sister, who exclaimed: "Look, mither, thev're a' oot of step but oor Jock!"—Tit-Bits.

Getting Under Way.—"Have you completed your plan for hastening the business of the United States senate?"

"Partly," replied the newly-elected senator. "I have prepared a speech on the subject which it will take me three days to deliver."—Washington Star.

Just to see what he could do, R. H. Lyons, of Osage, Kan., stocked a waste pool on his farm with fish some ten years ago, and he now has a chain of fish ponds on his place for which he can get $15,000 any day, all stocked from the original waste pool experiment.—Waterbury American.

A bride and bridegroom who went to New York the other day on a wedding trip from Northampton, Mass., became separated and could not find each other. After a day or two of vain searching they found their way home separately. A bride and bridegroom should always take hold of each other's hands when viewing the sights of New York.—Rochester Union.

NOTABLE PEOPLE.

Dr. Withers C. Watts, the well known English scientist, is at present in San Francisco, on his way home from a visit to the leper colonies of Australia, where he has been studying the disease.

Mrs. Murfree, of Meridian, Miss., vice president of the United Daughters of the Confederacy of that state, is seeking the assistance of the Missouri Daughters of the Confederacy in the project to purchase the old home of Jefferson Davis at Beauvoir.

M. Hanotaux, the French minister of foreign affairs, has received from his admirers in St. Quentin a handsome sword, to be worn with his uniform as a member of the academy. The money to purchase it—more than $300—was raised by a popular 5-cent subscription at St. Quentin.

Maj. W. H. Smyth, the postmaster at Atlanta, Ga., has long been prominent as a Republican leader in Georgia. He came to the state during the war with a regiment from Vermont, and won the title he now bears at Chickamauga, in the battle of Snodgrass Hill. Later he was placed in command of the United States forces stationed in Atlanta. Under Grant he was marshal for Georgia for eight years.

"All patriotic citizens of Texas," says the Austin Statesman, "are opposed to the removal of the remains of the warrior statesman, Sam Houston, from Texas soil to that of Tennessee. Gen. Houston abandoned Tennessee for some cause in the very acme of his greatness, and became more identified with and interested in Texas than in any other state. He cared more for his history in Texas than he did for his history at any other period of his existence, and his name and fame became a part of Texas in its youthful but giant efforts to throw off the yoke of Mexico and establish and independent nationality."

January Reductions on Blankets and Comforts.

If you are needing any or will be needing any, buy them now; 'twill be many moons ere they will again be as low priced.

White Blankets.

10-4 size White Blanket Sheets, special during January, 48c pair.

11-4 size Extra heavy, now $1.05 pair.

10-4 size Fine Soft Wool Blankets, a bargain at $3.00; this month, $2.50 pair.

11-4 size extra fine, special at $4.00 pair, now $3.62 pair.

Same size, and that's very large, in a good heavyweight and extra soft and fine, California Wool Blanket, now $4.50 pair.

GREAT OFFERINGS IN BED SPREADS.

Colored Blankets.

10-4 size Grey Blanket Sheets, now 48c pair.

11-4 size Fine All-Wool Grey Blankets, a heavy weight, this month $4.00 pair.

Our line of Alaska Blankets is remarkably large, and you can make a saving on any pair of them this month.

Comforters.

Full size and heavy, printed covering on both sides, now 88c each.

Notice these reductions on fine Eiderdown Comforts:

Usually $4.00....Now $3.50
Usually $4.50....Now $4.10
Usually $6.00....Now $5.25
Usually $9.75....Now $8.90

And many other prices intervening.

Bear in mind these reductions of ours are on the best goods in the best condition.

BAILLARGEON'S

COLUMBIA NAVIGATION COMPANY

Will Dispatch the Magnificently Equipped

Steamship CITY OF COLUMBIA

(1,800 Tons Register)

For DYEA and SKAGUAY as Follows:

February 25, March 11 and 25, April 8 and 22.

And for DAWSON CITY and all intermediate points on the Yukon River on May 15 and every 30 days thereafter,

Connecting with the specially constructed stern-wheel steamers S. L. Kent, H. Emerson and W. K. Merwin, of the Columbia Navigation Co., and the steamer W. H. Evans, of the LEWIS KLONDIKE CO. For rates of passage and freight and other information apply at the office of the company, MUTUAL LIFE BUILDING, corner of Yesler way and First avenue.

KLONDIKE OUTFITS.

CLOTHING AND SUPPLIES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

Not the cheapest, but only the very best goods at very low prices.

NATIVE ALASKA DOGS FOR SALE.

THE MACDOUGALL & SOUTHWICK CO.

"WE KEEP THE BEST."

LILLY, BOGARDUS & CO. Inc.

WHOLESALE

Cereals, Dried Fruits, Beans, Flour, Feed, Hay and Grain.

Particular Attention Given to **ALASKA SUPPLIES.**

Established in 1889.

Warehouses, Offices, Mill and Dock: Foot of Main and Jackson Sts.

H. CLAY EVERSOLE

Optical Specialist.

WE LEAD, OTHERS IMITATE.

You may have tried a dozen pair of glasses fitted by as many opticians, and failed to get just what you need. Try it again. Our advice will cost you nothing. We guarantee you better satisfaction—the experience of many others. We can produce references. We carefully and scientifically examine your eyes and adjust glasses on strictly scientific principles. H. CLAY EVERSOLE, Optician, 720 First Avenue.

THE BON MARCHÉ

Nordhoff & Co.

1425, 1427, 1429 Second Avenue and 115, 117 Pike Street.

What We Propose to Do Today and Tomorrow

IN OUR SHOE DEPARTMENT.

READ THESE ITEMS—YOU'LL FIND THEM INTERESTING.

Misses' and Youths' Shoes.

Misses' Glazed Dongola, Pebble Goat and Kangaroo Calf Shoes in C, D, E and EE widths, value up to $1.50, only 75c a pair.

Boys' Box Calf, extra heavy sole, waterproof, worth $2.25, Friday and Saturday, $1.85 a pair.

Boys' Veal Calf Shoes, suitable only for hard wear, sizes 2 to 5, only $1.49 a pair.

Boys' Buff Shoe, a neat school shoe, only 98c a pair.

Ladies' Shoes.

Ladies' Dongola, patent tip, lace and button, value $1.50, today and Saturday only 98c a pair.

Ladies' Patent Leather Lace Shoe in C, D and E widths, value $2.00, only $1.98 a pair.

Men's Shoes.

Men's Fine Satin Calf Shoes in the French and London Toe, only 98c a pair.

Men's Western Oil Grain Shoe, extra heavy tapped sole, only $1.80 a pair.

Men's Elkskin Shoes, extra wide, suitable for solid comfort, worth $2.50, only $2.00 a pair.

Extra Special for Today.

Children's Rubbers, good quality, sizes 6 to 2, only 10c a pair.