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NEWS VOL. XIV. NO. 315

OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## THE BELT OVERCOAT



Quite the most distinguished looking of the many good overcoats we are showing is this

**Hart, Schaffner & Marx**

"belt overcoat." The belt is the back only—doesn't go all the way round. The coat, however, is an "all-round" style garment; has all the characteristics of the Hart, Schaffner & Marx product—style fine tailoring, best quality.

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## You Need a Bath

AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK

You might as well bathe in the river as in an old wooden tub, but there is no occasion for doing either so long as up-to-date bath tubs can be had reasonably. Talk with us about the matter.

**W. J. SCULLEY**

470-472 Commercial. Phone Black 2243

## Up to the Holidays

Large hall sell at 20 per cent. reduction from regular price the following goods:

**Benedicts Quadruple Silver Plated Knives, Forks and Spoons, Berry Spoons, Fruit Spoons, Sugar Spoons, Butter Knives, etc.**

**Also Silver Plated Table Ware for Children, Such as Knives, Forks, Spoons and Mugs.**

**FOARD & STOKES COMP'NY**

**Many Men Discharged.**  
Chicago, Dec. 30.—On account of the closing of the Illinois Steel Company's mill at South Chicago, 500 employees of the Chicago, Lake Shore & East-

ern Railway, which is operated by the steel company, were laid off and 130 more discharged. The men were told that the company must cut down expenses.

## AWFUL LOSS AT BIG FIRE IN CHICAGO

**Five Hundred Persons Burned to Death While Attending the Iroquois Theater Matinee.**

**Fire Started on Stage During the Last Act and Spread to the Balcony.**

**WEAKER TRAMPLED UNDER**

**Hundreds of Women and Children Fall Beneath Mad Rush for the Doors and Are Burned to Death in Few Moments.**

Chicago, Dec. 30.—(Special)—Fire that broke out in the Iroquois theater this afternoon cost the lives of from 300 to 500 persons. Late estimates in the day by fire department officials are to the effect that the number of dead will reach fully 500.

The blaze started on the stage during the last act of the performance of "Mr. Bluebeard." A panic immediately resulted.

Before half of the people in the theater could escape the flames had spread to all parts of the building, and in the mad rush for the street many were trampled to death. The stronger fought their way past the weaker and hundreds were trampled under foot, to be burned to death in the fierce flames. The utmost confusion prevailed and efforts at rescue were in vain.

The various fire departments in the vicinity were hurried to the scene, but by the time they arrived the flames had spread over the building. The firemen went to work heroically, and in a few moments had taken three bodies from the burning building. The first taken out was that of a year-old child. The infant had been trampled upon and the flames had completed the work of the frenzied mob that sought to reach the street. The other bodies were those of two men.

The bodies of several women were found close to that of the child. All were burned badly.

Fifteen minutes after the alarm was turned in 60 bodies had been taken from the building. The most conservative estimates of the firemen were that fully 300 other persons were inside the theatre, either burned to death or unconscious.

Firemen and policemen say that the bodies were piled five feet deep inside the theater. In nearly every instance the corpses were fearfully burned and the hair singed to the scalp.

At 4:45 p. m. the fire was out, but at that hour only about one-third of the bodies had been recovered.

At 4:45 Chief Musham, of the fire department, said that from personal investigation he believed there were 300 to 500 bodies in the first balcony of the theater. That the number of dead will reach the latter figure seems certain at 5 o'clock.

It is believed that nearly all of the dead are women and children, who were trampled upon by the maddened men who rushed frantically for the doors. At 5 o'clock the firemen and policemen were engaged in removing the bodies from the building.

**PART OF TWELFTH DISTRICT.**

**Hawaiian Lighthouses to Be Under Control of Government.**

Washington, Dec. 30.—(Special)—The federal government will take over the lighthouse system of the Hawaiian islands with the beginning of the new year. The islands will be annexed to the twelfth lighthouse district and a naval officer appointed to take charge. The present employees are to be retained.

**DEPARTMENT IS ENCOURAGED.**

**First Step in Case Affecting Right to Use Hot Springs Water.**

Little Rock Ark., Dec. 31.—United States District Judge Jacob Triber has granted a temporary injunction

restraining the officers of the interior department at Hot Springs from interfering with the patients of certain non graduate physicians, who allege that the government prevents them from prescribing to their patients the use of the hot waters on the government reservation.

The rule of the secretary of the interior under which the superintendent of the government reservation acts permits any person to use the water who may desire to do so, if not under medical treatment, but if under medical treatment, then the use of the water is denied, unless such physician is registered in conformity with the regulations of the department.

**JAPAN IS PREPARING TO FACE GRAVE CRISIS.**

**Minister Takahari Informs State Department That Far Eastern Situation Is Threatening.**

Washington, Dec. 30.—(Special)—The Japanese minister called at the state department today and reported that the situation in the far east gives great concern and that Japan is making great preparation for the worst.

At the Russian embassy and at the Japanese legation, the Associated Press is informed that the situation in the far east has entered upon a critical stage. Both the Russian ambassador, Count Cassini, and Kogoro Takahari, the Japanese minister expresses the hope that war is not inevitable.

**MARY ANDERSON REAPPEARS.**

**Takes Part in Charitable Performance in London Playhouse.**

New York, Dec. 30.—For the first time since her retirement, nearly 15 years ago, Mary Anderson (Madame De Navarro), the famous American actress, has reappeared on the stage, says a Herald dispatch from London.

The event took place at the People's Palace, in the east end of London at an entertainment given by the Rev. Father Bernard Vaughan for the poor, sick and suffering among whom he labors. She sang several songs and read the balcony scene from Romeo and Juliet.

**RECORD IMMIGRATION YEAR.**

**More than 600,000 Steerage Passengers Arrive at New York.**

New York, Dec. 30.—Immigration at this port in 1903 has passed all previous records. During the calendar year just ending 619,890 immigrants, 547,197 in 1902, an increase of 72,783. It is estimated that some 2000 more foreigners will land before January 1, so that the total increase will be close on to 75,000.

The year of 1902 was a record breaking year, the increase over 1901 having been about 139,000. Southern Europe contributed by far the largest proportion of the total. There was, however, a marked increase in the newcomers from northern and western Europe, especially Norway, Sweden and Denmark. Italy, nevertheless, leads all the rest. The exodus of Italian laborers, with whom the outward bound steamers were loaded early this month, has shown a marked falling off.

**MISS ROVELLE STILL MISSING.**

**Relatives Fear Young Heiress Has Been Victim Of Kidnappers.**

Meriden, Miss., Dec. 30.—(Special)—A week ago today Miss Ethel Rovelle disappeared from her home in this city, and, despite the utmost efforts of the police to find her, absolutely no trace of her has been discovered. Her disappearance has caused much excitement here and in the surrounding country, where the young woman was well known.

Miss Rovelle was heiress to a large fortune, and her relatives believe she has been carried off by kidnapers. As yet the abductors have made no effort to secure ransom money, but it is believed a proposal will soon be made.

**Gigantic Steamer Ordered.**

London, Dec. 30.—(Special)—It is reported that the White Star Steamship Company, operating passenger steamships between the United States and England, has placed an order for a new vessel 755 feet in length. The new vessel will be 30 feet longer than the Baltic, at present the largest steamship afloat.

## REVOLUTION IS IMMINENT

**Conspirators Are Plotting Trouble for President of Spanish Honduras.**

**SITUATION IS VERY SERIOUS**

**Two Leading Cabinet Members Have Resigned and Arms Will Be Imported to Back Up the Rebellion.**

New York, Dec. 30.—Political enemies of President Manuel Bonilla, of Spanish Honduras are planning a revolution to overthrow the present administration in that republic, according to advices received here from Puerto Cortes, says a Times dispatch from New Orleans. The situation is asserted to be so serious that trouble is momentarily expected.

On account of a political break with President Bonilla, General Davilla, vice-president and acting minister of justice, and General Gutierrez, another member of Bonilla's cabinet, have handed in their resignations, which were accepted.

Generals Davilla and Gutierrez charge President Bonilla with favoring men who opposed the recent revolution. Rumors are in circulation to the effect that plans are forming for the importation of arms to back up a movement against the government.

**BISHOP FARLEY TO GO TO ROME**

**Three Very Important Questions Will Be Settled During His Visit**

New York, Dec. 30.—Archbishop Farley, of this city, has received an invitation to visit Rome to attend the celebration of the jubilee of the immaculate conception, and probably will sail early next month.

Three important church questions are likely to be brought to an issue while the archbishop is in Rome. They are the supposed need for foreign missionaries, especially for the Italians; selection of a coadjutor bishop for this diocese, and the placing of an American church in direct communication with the Vatican by establishing

custom law here and removing the restrictions provided for this as a missionary country.

John Charlton Very Ill.  
Toronto, Ont., Dec. 30.—John Charlton, who recently delivered addresses in many cities of the United States in favor of reciprocity with the Dominion, is critically ill at his home in Lynbrook. Owing to advanced age there are fears for his life.

**For International Meet**

New Haven, Conn., Dec. 30.—Negotiations probably will be resumed this winter between Yale and Harvard, looking to a dual international track athletic meet in England next summer. Yale, it is understood here, stands ready to enter such a meet as last year, and is only waiting for the Harvard team to join the movement.

**NO TIME LIMIT SET FOR RUSSIAN REPLY**

**Dilatory Tactics of Japanese Cabinet Are Causing Sentiment Against It At Yokohama.**

Yokohama, Dec. 30.—At an extraordinary meeting of the privy council today the fact was developed that no time limit had been set for Russia's reply to the last official note from the Japanese government. Strong opposition is now publicly manifested to the cabinet, owing to the dilatory tactics it is pursuing.

The last ordinance announced invests the commander of Formosa with full authority to act in case war is declared.

**Want to Fight for Japan**

New York, Dec. 30.—The Japanese consulate here is overwhelmed with offers of volunteers for service in the Japanese army in anticipation of war with Russia, cables the Times correspondent at Sydney, N. S. W. The consul has informed the applicants that it is impossible to accept foreigners for enlistment.

**Radium Cures Bad Cancer.**

New York, Dec. 30.—Radium is reported to have removed a cancer which had spread over the entire right cheek of William Hoffman, 62 years of age, of Newark, N. Y. When he came here for treatment several specialists expressed the belief that the growth could be removed only by cutting away nearly all the flesh on one side of his head.

WAIT FOR OUR

**Annual Clearance**

**Sale!**

**Dry Goods and Notions**

Coming January 2, 1904.

**The A. Dunbar Co.**