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TODAY'S WEATHER.

Portland, Oct. 16.—Oregon: Increasing cloudiness, followed by rain in the northern portion.

GIVE PEOPLE A CHANCE.

The Panama canal is to be built. Uncle Sam has determined upon that. The huge project has been planned to perfection as far as route, diagrams, estimates, and other data, are concerned. It is known the enterprise will involve not less than \$200,000,000. The only unsolved feature of the proposition is, the method of raising money; whether it shall be done by annual appropriation, or by bonds to be issued for the desired sum. The president is vested with the prerogative of providing for the issue of bonds, if that policy is pursued in lieu of congressional appropriations. Mr. Roosevelt can add materially to his prestige in the homeland, by exerting this special function, and issuing the required bonds upon the popular loan lines inaugurated by Mr. Cleveland, and the loan, under his auspices, would be snapped up with even greater avidity than was the one put out by the big democrat. The bankers of the country will fight the idea as one man, but the people will bless him to his utmost day, and history will account him the wise man he is.

ANOTHER WAY.

Over in the Isle of Mauritius, the port of St. Phillip is kept open and navigable to its farthest reaches by dredgers maintained and operated by revenue levied upon, and collected from, the ship tonnage entering the port. This strikes us as a pretty good thing for Astoria, if it is within the purview of the federal and state laws. A calculation, at one cent per ton on the net tonnage, based upon the coastwise and foreign ships entering here last year, would produce a revenue of \$11,000 per annum.

SWIFT LIVING.

According to the New York Tribune, the whirligig of life in Gotham is so rapid that it seems impossible to check the pace. One must go with the crowd or be trampled on. To show just how people and things keep on the go, the Tribune summarizes the daily round in these short lines: Every 40 seconds an immigrant arrives; every 3 minutes some one is arrested; every 6 minutes a child is born; every 7 minutes there is a funeral; every 13 minutes a couple get married; every 42 minutes a new business firm starts up; every 48 minutes a building catches fire; every 48 minutes a ship leaves the harbor; every 51 minutes a new building is erected; every 8 hours some one is killed by accident; every 7 hours some one fails in business; every 8 hours an attempt to kill some one is made; every 8 1/2 hours some couple is divorced; every 10 hours some one commits suicide; every 2 days some one is murdered.

BABIES CARED FOR.

Now and then a true philanthropist appears, blesses the world by his or her ideas, as the case may be, and totally passes from view. Monuments are nev-

er erected to them in public places, but human hearts sing praises to the unknown benefactors. One has evidently made a recent appearance, and discovered a remedy for the baby in church. The remedy has been hit upon by a Rochester Baptist clergyman. It does not consist of soothing syrup or any drug store concoction, but a committee of young women who offer their services to care for any infant during religious services that the mother may bring to the house of worship. Hereafter she is deprived of any excuse on the baby's account for not being in her pew, the servant, the younger children and the father will have to depend on their own resources. The clergyman will not suffer from any side attractions furnished by the smallest member of his flock. He can enter upon his highest flights of oratory without fear of being brought back quickly to earth by an infant's prattle, and the deacons can feast uninterruptedly upon the doctrines being expounded, or perhaps snore with a painless conscience.

TWO ESSENTIALS.

Charles B. Schwab, in his speech to the people of Bullfrog, Nevada, said: "It is not a question of ore—the ore is here. It is a question of treatment and railroad facilities." As ore—ore containing actual gold in good quantities—is the basis of a mine, other essentials for money making need never cause worry. Railroads and smelters can be built anywhere, but if the elementary mineral that makes the world rich does not exist, nothing else avails. However, as the people have confidence in their possession of good gold ore, its conversion into coin is only a matter of time. Railroads are sometimes slow of building, but they will be built; and when the "discovering" and manipulation are done in southern Nevada there will be a steady and surprising outflow of gold from that section into the channels of trade. The mines will not be exhausted this century.

By the way, what is to be done about that new, 1906 hotel for this city? It is time to launch the project, if anything like realization is to be hoped for in the coming season. It won't do to forget it. There will be too many disagreeable reminders furnished us, from people who should not have any reason to reproach us. See?

CHANCE OF A LIFETIME

Magnificent Production of the Christian Tragedy in Portland.

Second only, perhaps, in scope and beauty, to the Lewis and Clark fair, is the coming theatrical attraction billed for Portland soon; it is worth the attention of people even so far away as Astoria, and many will, no doubt, attend.

All who have seen Klaw and Erlanger's colossal and brilliant production of "Ben Hur" agree that nothing more beautiful, inspiring, spiritual and edifying than the "Healing of the Lepers" in the last act of that stupendous spectacle has ever been offered on the stage of an American theatre. At this point this great play is truly and in a high sense "religious." Here the stage seems to have consecrated itself and all resources to the services of Christianity, and there is nothing that is not reverent, beautiful and altogether fitting in its services. This scene and the widely advertised chariot race, in the act preceding it, are the special features of the play which give it much of its wonderful value and extraordinary power.

If the American drama has done absolutely nothing worthy in its long career but this, had its fame to rest solely upon this noble effort of the Klaw and Erlanger Company, it has justified its existence. For in this, at least, it has shown that the stage may be given over to uses wholly worthy, highly commendable and which cannot fail to exert the greatest possible blessing on mankind—that of bringing home with immense force and dignity the eternal truth and verity of the birth into the world of Jesus, the Savior of mankind.

"Ben Hur" is again the topic of the hour in this vicinity. It is to be staged at the Marquam Grand theatre at Portland for six night (exclusive of Sunday) starting Thursday, October 19th, with special matinee performances on Wednesday and Saturday. All railroad lines entering Portland are to make low excursion rates. Calvin Helig, manager of the Marquam Grand, will give careful attention to all orders received through the mail.

The Best Doctor.

Rev. B. C. Horton, Sulphur Springs, Texas writes July 19, 1899: "I have used in my family Ballard's Snow Liniment and Horehound syrup, and they have proved certainly satisfactory. The liniment is the best we have ever used for headache and pains. The cough syrup has been our doctor for the last eight years." 25c, 50c, \$1.00. Sold by Frank Hart, druggist.

Shirring Gowns.

Much shirring and many yards of lace are put on these dresses, nearly all of which have elbow sleeves. The edges are finished off with several lace ruffles. With these sleeves are worn the long gloves, which are now coming forward after a long period of obscurity. A few have the sleeves of the material short, but have long, snug forearm pieces which reach quite to the back of the hand, and these are always of lace, generally the heavy Irish crochet, which has obtained a new lease of life. The majority of sleeves on the newest costumes, even those of cloth, are very ornamental and very clumsy, especially those intended for street wear. They are full and have



RUFFLED BOLLINNE GOWNS.

deep cuffs, very much shirred and trimmed with fancy braids, in addition to which there is some lace.

The cloth suits nearly all now have some form of a vest front. This is handsomely garnished with all the fine and rich material one can get on. Most of the lighter materials are made up with much drapery across the front, sometimes in surplice style and again in cross gathers and folds. While the drooping blouse effect has not entirely gone from our gaze like an unpleasant dream, the waists of that style do not hang down so far and often are drawn quite close to the figure. The girdles and fancy belts help to give the pointed effect without the shapeless fullness.

Heavily raised embroidery is considered the height of style for wash waists, though many are made with the old fashioned eyelet embroidery. Among the accessories shown me recently were yoke capes and berthas of silk, mull, batiste and fine linen all with eyelet work. Incidentally I might

mention some beautiful small capes of black net entirely covered with black spangles and some with black and steel ones. These are to wear over the pretty thin gowns and are certainly beautiful. Parasols are things of delicate beauty, of soft silks and chiffons, dainty and light, and trimmed with bows of ribbon and in some cases flowers and ruffles.

Silks will be the great rage for out door dresses and suits, generally in a fine and close quality of taffeta, sometimes slightly changeable. They are overwhelmed with lace and flounces. Coats long, short and half length will be worn to match.

Coats of every kind of pongee are all ready seen. A very stylish one had the skirt made circular and reaching just below the knees, while the waist was bloused in slightly. The sleeves had plaited caps about halfway to the elbows and below a monstrously full bishop shape with deep stitched cuffs. The coat itself was neat and comfortable, but the clumsy sleeves destroyed its beauty. Still all the women admire it greatly. It was unlined.

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