

INJURIES TO WIFE CAUSE HER DEATH

MOTHER, SON, AND FATHER, OF PORTLAND FAMILY ARE DEAD TODAY.

R. W. STAFFORD SUICIDED AFTER ATTACKING OTHERS

Son Was Killed Outright Yesterday Afternoon, and Mother Lingered Until Today—Act Is Believed to Have Been Caused By Temporary Insanity of Slayer.

(By Associated Press to The Observer)

PORTLAND, July 2.—Mrs. Caroline Stafford, wounded late yesterday when her husband, R. W. Stafford, ran amuck at their home with a hatchet, died here today. The son, Wirt, five years old, who was also wounded by the father, is still in a precarious condition.

An inquest has been ordered on the body of Stafford, who killed himself after attacking the family and setting fire to the home, and on that of the year-old baby whom the father also killed. Three children, besides the one wounded, are left orphans by the father's tragic act.

The authorities say temporary insanity is the only explanation of the tragedy, inasmuch as all persons interviewed by police say Mr. Stafford had not quarreled with his family. He suddenly left his work shortly before 3 o'clock, walked to his home, which was close by, and apparently attempted to murder his whole family. Three of the children escaped.

Reaching his home the father is said to have refused to play with his children, who thereupon went off to play by themselves. They left their father sitting on the steps of his home. Richard Stafford, 11 years old, was the first of the children to hear signs of trouble in the house, and the children all returned to find their father attacking the mother and the baby, who had been left in the house.

The two girls fled. Richard seized Wirt and pulled him from the room. The father gave chase, and, seizing Wirt by the collar, he dragged the child inside and struck him several blows on the head with the hatchet.

Meantime neighbors had heard the commotion and telephoned for the police. Some tried to get into the house but the doors were locked. Motorcycle Patrolmen Goulstone and Schall arrived on the scene three minutes after the call. By that time smoke was pouring from the house. Police broke in the back door. Neighbors rushed into the building with the police and carried the children to the front steps. Police dragged the parents to the front door.

Upon discovering the wounds on the bodies, police telephoned for two ambulances, and sent the injured to Multnomah hospital. Coroner Smith took charge of Mr. Stafford's body, and that of the baby, who died shortly after reaching the hospital.

The insane man had piled a heap of miscellaneous rubbish on the floor near a wrecked stove, and had set fire to it before cutting his own throat. Bloody encounters between the military forces of the two nations are of frequent occurrence.

ELEVATED TRAIN BURNED IN N. Y.

MANY WOMEN ON BOARD—ALL HAD NARROW ESCAPES.

Firemen Rushed Ladders to Elevated Tracks to Make Rescue—No Lives Thought Lost.

(By Associated Press to The Observer)

NEW YORK, July 2.—Fire on the elevated terminal of the New York Central today destroyed one of the tracks and part of another, and caused a large number of women, who were on board, to escape with narrow margins. A large number of women, who were on board, escaped with narrow margins. A large number of women, who were on board, escaped with narrow margins.

President Having Fine Voyage and Is Resting Up On His Way Home

(By Associated Press to The Observer)

ON S. S. GEORGE WASHINGTON, July 2.—The presidential voyage continues under most favorable conditions, with calm seas. President Wilson, has done some work on his message to congress, but he is giving considerable time to rest.

BERLIN EXPECTS BIG REVOLUTION

STREET CAR STRIKE NOW ON IN GERMAN CITY

Radicals Have Come Out Frankly With Their Demands For Dictatorship by the Proletariat

(By Associated Press to The Observer)

BERLIN, July 1.—There are indications here today that the strike movement in Germany may develop into a revolution. The strike movement in Germany may develop into a revolution. The strike movement in Germany may develop into a revolution.

Strike of Commercial Telegraphers Called Off; Failed to Gain Points

NEW YORK, July 2.—The strike of commercial telegraphers employed by the Western Union and Postal Telegraph companies was today declared off. The strikers failed to gain their points.

GERMANS WILL RATIFY TREATY

PARIS, July 2.—The Germans expect to ratify the peace treaty the first of next week, according to a note sent this office acknowledging the stipulation that the blockade would be raised when the treaty should be ratified. The German note also expressed the hope that the German war prisoners would be released at the same time.

BOLSHEVIKI LAY CLAIM TO CAPTURE OF CITY OF PERM

(By Associated Press to The Observer) LONDON, July 2.—The capture of the city of Perm, in Russia, from the forces of the Kolchak government, is claimed by the Bolsheviks in wireless dispatches received from Russia today. The occupation of Perm, it is stated, took place Tuesday.

REBELLION RIFE IN MONTENEGRO AGAINST SERBIA

(By Associated Press to The Observer)

BERNE, Switzerland, July 2.—Virtually all Montenegro is in rebellion against Serbian occupation, according to advices received here. Bloody encounters between the military forces of the two nations are of frequent occurrence.

BAKER LOSES ONE OF HER LEADING BUSINESS MEN

(By Associated Press to The Observer)

BAKER, July 1.—Edward Burke, for over 23 years one of the leading merchants of Baker, died at his home on Second street at 1 o'clock Tuesday afternoon, of diabetes.

Mr. Burke, who was 49 years of age, was born in Minnesota on May 20, 1870. He came west in 1875 with his family and settled in the Powder River valley. Twenty-three years ago he, with Robert Donald, purchased the clothing business of J. H. Donald, and 10 years later purchased the interest of his partner, although the business has always remained in the firm name of Donald & Burke.

Mr. Burke leaves a wife and two sons, Donald and Edward, aged 9 and 6. His father and a sister, Mrs. I. B. Bowen, live in Baker.

SAVING MADE IN SCHOOL WORK

DISTRICTS ARE COMBINED FOR ECONOMICAL REASONS

Superintendent Ivanhoe Works Out Plan to Save Taxpayers Heavy Expense

(By Associated Press to The Observer)

Because there are such a few children to attend school, and for the further reason that it is economical to handle the school work, amalgamating of school districts has been under way the last few days in County Superintendent Ivanhoe's office.

Red Pepper school is no more. It has been combined with Harrahville and Harrahville it will go under the latter name. The districts are number 3 and 49. A part of district No. 49 was given to Riverside for it is best served by that school.

The old town of Babler was settled some time ago and now the dove of peace hovers over a combined school, when orders were issued combining districts number 11 and number 75. These two districts are in the limits of Babler proper and it was admitted some time back that it would have been well to have had a combined school. This was brought about this week.

In speaking of possible shortages of teachers Mr. Ivanhoe says indications are now that there will be sufficient teachers to take care of all the work in Union county this year.

GOES EAST TO MEET HIS BRIDE FROM SCOTLAND

Henry McCaffrey, prominent young La Grande man and president of R. O. O. B., La Grande Chapter No. 23, left La Grande Monday morning en route to New York, where he will meet his bride-to-be, who arrives from England in a few days.

Mr. McCaffrey is well known in this city, having resided here for the past three or four years and having recently returned from twenty-two months' service overseas.

He is expected to return with his bride to La Grande the latter part of next week.

SITUATION NO BETTER IN STRIKE

STATE BOARD OF CONCILIATION IS ATTEMPTING MEDIATION IN PORTLAND

THOUSAND ELECTRICIANS AND OPERATORS OUT

(By Associated Press to The Observer)

PORTLAND, July 2.—The Oregon State Board of Conciliation met here today to attempt to accomplish by mediation steps toward settlement of the telephone strike. W. F. Woodward was elected chairman, Otto Hartwig, secretary, and J. K. Flynn third member of the board, which was created by the last legislature.

Strikers today claimed that there are one thousand out, including electricians and operators. Portland, Salem, Medford, Albany, Ashland and Astoria are all affected.

The service given here today is about the same as was given yesterday, and no great delays are experienced. W. J. Phillips, division commercial superintendent of the company, professes confidence in the ability of the company to maintain its service. Strike leaders, however, are jubilant at the completeness of the walk-out, and predict that service will be wrecked within a short time when the accumulated central office and cable troubles, for lack of repair, will leave the big system riddled and unfit for satisfactory operation.

They declare that the walk-out of the electrical workers is 100 per cent complete, and are positive that the company cannot recruit sufficient strike-breakers to keep its lines and equipment in running order.

At strike headquarters, it was said last night that the total of phone girls who had quit work was more than 600, out of the original 800 employees of the company. Mrs. Agnes Johnson, president of the local operators' union, said that more than 400 new members had joined the union and left their jobs since the strike was called, two days ago.

Neither the strikers nor the company look with any degree of favor upon the proposal that the conciliation committee intervene for an adjustment of differences. Both said that the board might take action, if it chose, but not at their suggestion. Mr. Phillips, speaking for the company, said that the action of the conciliation board must be awaited before the company could make any statement with respect to its attitude toward intervention.

THREE TAPS ON THE FIRE BELL MEANS AIRPLANE

Sometime tomorrow, probably during the forenoon, three taps will be sounded on the big bell over the fire hall. Citizens who hear it will know then that an airplane has arrived in the city and will then have made a landing or will make a landing at the landing field arranged by the A. J. Club, and all who wish to see the machine there as it "gets a drink" will be able to do so. The landing field is just behind the Sacred Heart Academy.

The plane which will be here is one which will make exhibition flights at Baker the afternoon of July 4. It is owned by Ralph Peteler, of Walla Walla and will be piloted by Lieut. W. C. Buell, of the army aviation service. As the exact hour of its arrival here can not be learned today, arrangements have been made with the fire chief to sound the signal as mentioned above.

BAKER HOLD-UPS PULL NEW STUNT

SEARCH CAR, CLAIMING TO BE FEDERAL AGENTS.

Victim Saved Large Sum of Money By Dropping It to Ground—Thieves Got \$50.00.

(By Associated Press to The Observer)

BAKER, July 1.—Charles Cartmill and William Jarman were held up Monday night about 11 o'clock north of the James high school.

Mr. Cartmill was fixing a puncture when two men appeared and said they were government agents and were out on a search for liquor. The robbers searched the car and Mr. Cartmill and Jarman, securing about \$50.

While the men were busy going through the car Mr. Cartmill watched his chance and dropped a large sum of money which he had on his person, near a fence post.

The robbers seemed very much dissatisfied with the amount secured and declared they knew Cartmill had more money with him.

The highwaymen went out in a car hired from a local garage. No arrests have been made so far, although the police are supposed to be on the track of the men.

EDWARD TREFZ ILL AND NOT ABLE TO FILL ENGAGEMENT

A change in the Chautauqua program for the second day of the course in La Grande has been necessitated by the illness of Mr. Edward Trefz, the noted lecturer, who was to have given an address here Saturday evening, July 5, on the subject, "And Now, What?" Mr. Trefz has become ill with heart trouble. The Chautauqua bureau has secured Captain W. J. Hindley, of Spokane, to fill Mr. Trefz's place. Captain Hindley will give his talk Saturday afternoon in the period originally arranged for Dr. A. D. Carpenter's lecture on "Worlds in the Making," and Dr. Carpenter will lecture in the evening.

Only One Arrest First "Dry" Night in Chicago, As Against 200 Before

(By Associated Press to The Observer)

CHICAGO, Ill., July 2.—Only one arrest was made in Chicago last night—the first "dry" night—at the South Clark street police station, as against a nightly average of two hundred prior to prohibition.

IS INNOCENT OF A. W. O. L. CHARGE

BAKITE BOY SAID TO HAVE BEEN GRAVELY WRONGED

(By Associated Press to The Observer)

PORTLAND, Ore., July 2.—The family of John H. Grant, of Baker, Ore., a soldier of the 91st division of the A. E. F., is literally moving heaven and earth to have their boy released from St. Sulpice prison in France, where an unjust conviction by court-martial has condemned him to spend five years at hard labor. Young Grant, who was a postal clerk at Baker before his enlistment, was convicted of being absent without leave from the 361st Infantry, 91st division, at the battle of the Argonne. Because he was not able to locate the officer who granted him leave to go back to a first aid station he was unable to offer any defense other than his own unsubstantiated statements.

Grant was convicted last December, while the 91st was in Belgium, but his family didn't learn about it until after his comrades had returned to America and been demobilized.

Up in Baker, George H. Foster, postmaster, who had been holding his place open for young Grant against the day of his return, wired Colonel Cummings at Spokane asking when the boy would be home. And the colonel wired back that John was in prison in France for five years.

Family Learns of Mistake. But when his comrades of company C were demobilized at Camp Lewis they sent one of their number to Baker to explain to the family the wrong that had been done the boy. Immediately the Grants undertook the gigantic task of freeing the lad.

Monday in Portland Representative A. A. Smith, of Baker, the Grants' attorney, and J. S. Grant, of Baker, a brother of the imprisoned man, found Walter Belthe, acting counsel in the same company, who was with young Grant when Lt. Huddleston gave him permission to go back to the first-aid station for treatment and who has made an affidavit to that effect. This affidavit will be forwarded to the war department.

Permission Was Granted. Belthe says that on October 10, after six days of fighting in the Argonne and two days of rest in wet blankets in the rain, the 91st was ordered back to hold a sector of the front. He was suffering from illness and asked Lieutenant Huddleston permission to go to the first-aid station. It was granted. At the same time Grant, who was suffering from swollen tonsils and feared he had the mumps, asked permission to go back. "All right," was Lieutenant Huddleston's answer, according to Belthe.

After two or three days Grant returned to his company, which was under heavy fire. He remained with it, unsuspecting the fate which hung over him, until after the armistice was signed, when, in December, he was arrested, was perfunctorily tried and was convicted. On a charge that he had failed to report his regiment he was acquitted.

Case Is Progressed. Marley H. Anderson, of Baker, of the same company, was a witness at the court martial. From him and other witnesses, Representative Smith has learned that Corporal Grant could not locate Belthe, who had been assigned somewhere before the trial and consequently Grant could offer no defense except his own statement.

Other affidavits showing the boy's good character, his cheerfulness under fire, and the splendid soldierly qualities have been secured from other members of the company and will be forwarded to the chief advocate general department in the effort to secure General Grant's release.

A letter recently received from him in prison is the first that Grant's family has received since he was sent to the two o'clock. It was critically telling about what happened to him, which have never gotten through to them.

ALL SET TO GO SOON AS 4TH COMES

COMMITTEES HAVE PLANS WELL ARRANGED AND AWAIT THE STARTING HOUR.

PARADE MOVES AT 9:30 SUNDAY TALKS AT 10:30

(By Associated Press to The Observer)

Original Plans For Big Celebration Have Been Well Adhered to, and Success Promises Well in All Sections of Program—Five Cars Entered For Races In Afternoon.

Reports presented last night at the meeting of the committees on the Fourth of July parade were all very pleasing. They showed all the preparations to be well in hand and the session at the city hall was therefore brief. In no department have the committees been lagging and everyone connected with the celebration is confident that La Grander and their visitors on Friday are due to see a day of events that will in no respect disappoint them. The men who have had the program for the day in charge have used good judgment and have avoided crowding the day with so many things that visitors would be apt to miss something they very much wished to see, and most of them will be able to go home at night not so weary and worn out that several days' rest will be required to get them over. A good interval has been left over the noon hour which will allow everyone to picnic for a short time in the park and rest up before the balance of the day's entertainment is pulled off.

Floats Still Coming. The exact hour for the start of the parade has been set for 9:30 o'clock Friday morning. Every part of every section in the parade will be in place at 9 o'clock and promptly at the half hour things will start to move. Any people who are not in their places promptly will lose the chance to compete for the prizes that have been offered, for Grand Marshal Ed. Coldidge has altogether left out of his plans any waits for tardy ones.

A new float has been announced since yesterday. It is a "Peace" float, which is being designed and built by E. E. Kirtley and Melvin F. Boice. Another city institution not named yesterday will be represented in the parade. This is the Y. M. C. A., mention of which was overlooked yesterday.

The Men Who Will Race. There will be five automobiles in the races Friday afternoon. Two of these are Maxwells and will be driven by "Red" Williams and Verne Anderson. Ed. Riedland will drive a White and Clarke Sharpe has entered his Mitchell, with Smith driving. Mark Phy, Hot Lake, has also entered a machine, but who will drive it has not yet been learned. The track at the fair grounds has been put in good shape for the events, and there will be fast time made, with plenty of excitement for the spectators. There will be two motorcycle races and one polo match along with the auto races during the afternoon.

The evening program stands as originally arranged, with the boxing contests at the fair grounds, and earlier in the evening the first number of the 1919 Chautauqua course at the city park.

LEO CROSS, WHO BATTLES KENDALL, ARRIVES IN TOWN

Leo Cross, the champion mitt artist of the 91st overseas division arrived in La Grande yesterday for his bout here on July 4 with Frank Kendall. Cross is quartered at the Y. M. C. A., where he will work out daily at 3 o'clock, between now and Friday. His workouts will be open to all fans who wish to get a look at him in action. G. D. Emahiser, who brings Mr. Cross here under the auspices of the athletic committee of the A. J. Club, is looking for a few heavyweights to give Cross some exercise.

WASHINGTON COWNS HURT

SEATTLE, Wash., July 2.—Telephone exchanges in small towns around Seattle, including Kent, Auburn, Port Blakely, and Benton, are crippled today as a result of the strike of operators who have walked out in sympathy with striking operators at other points.

