

TWO INFANTS DIE OF GAS IN PORTLAND

Two Babies, Aged Three and one, Died, Overcome By Gas Fumes

POLICE SUSPECT SUICIDE ATTEMPT

Mother is Unconscious at Hospital in Critical Condition; Husband Finds Her Before Asphyxiated.

PORTLAND, Dec. 12.—James and Marjorie Foles, aged three and one respectively, are dead today, their mother, Mrs. George Foles, is unconscious at the hospital in a critical condition after being found in a gas-filled kitchen last night. Her husband, a hotel waiter, found the doors locked when he came home and waited awhile at neighbors, then entered through a bedroom window, finding the house filled with gas, his wife on a cot in the kitchen, and the children on the floor with the gas pouring from an open stove burner. Officers said the circumstances indicated the mother, who had been ill, had turned on the gas.

MOTION DAY TO BE HELD

Circuit Court Will Hear Motions on Thursday, December 14; Judge J. W. Knowles to Preside.

For Thursday, December 14th, Circuit Judge J. W. Knowles has docketed a Motion Day calendar as follows: **Beatrice Hamilton** against John Shaw and others; suit to foreclose mortgage. J. S. Hodgin for plaintiff; C. P. Finn for defendants. **A. B. Hurlbut** and **Robertson** against Henry J. Wallace; action to collect money. J. S. Hodgin for plaintiff; J. S. Hodgin and Baker for defendant. **Union County** against **Ettae Frensdal**; proceeding to condemn land for road. Ed Wright for plaintiff; Cochran & Eberhard for defendant. **Union County** against **Hattie Frensdal** and others; proceedings to condemn land for road. Ed Wright for plaintiff; Cochran & Eberhard for defendant. **E. P. Dick** against **Margaret E. Dick** and **others**; Green & Hess for plaintiff; Cochran & Eberhard for defendant. **Fred Smith** against **City of La Grande**; final bill suit involving street assessment. Cochran & Eberhard for plaintiff; Green & Hess for defendant. **O. B. Dorson** against **White Pine Box & Lumber Co.** and others; action for conversion of personal property. Cochran & Eberhard for plaintiff; M. E. Dixon for defendant.

LABOR BOARD HELPS KELLER

(By The Associated Press) WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—Comptroller told the House today that the executive committee of the American Federation of Labor has authorized the employment of counsel to assist Representative Keller in prosecuting in the District Court.

Ruth Scott is Awarded Medal for Winning Essay

At a special assembly held this morning in the high school auditorium, Commander Roy F. Murphy, of the local American Legion post, presented a medal to Miss Ruth Scott, winner of the Legion essay contest in the state of Oregon. Her subject was "How the American Legion can Best Serve the Nation," and she received high honors in the state over many contestants and is now eligible to strive for national honors. Her essay will be matched against 47 others and the winner will receive a free scholarship in college. In his presentation speech, gave a fine talk, stressing upon the ideals of Americanism and what the Legion stood for, dealing with the accomplishments and aims of the order. Following Dr. Murphy's address, Walter M. Pierce, governor-elect of Oregon, addressed the student body on "Good Citizenship and Opportunities the Nation Presents." Those who heard his address were enthusiastic concerning it, stating that Mr. Pierce, who is a high class orator, was at his best and that the address was one of the most inspirational speeches ever delivered to the student body. His striking manner and his One deliverance brought round upon round of applause from his audience.

COLD WEATHER CONTINUES IN EAST OREGON

Memoirs of February 5th, 1883, Send Chills Down Spine of Old Timers; the Lowest Mark Last Night Was Four Above.

PORTLAND, Dec. 12.—Slight moderation of cold is forecast here. This morning it was 19 above in Portland as on yesterday. Forecast tomorrow is minimum 24 above. Baker was ten above today compared with two below yesterday.

Although the evening started off last night with every indication of terminating in colder weather than on Monday night, about six o'clock the thermometer stopped in its downward flight and the coldest mark was reached at four degrees above zero. At five o'clock the mercury registered eight above, falling three degrees in the one hour.

Unlike the night before, last night found a strong breeze blowing. Very little trouble has been reported from frozen water pipes and practically every case is due to negligence in failure to turn off the water. The water mains of the city have not been reached by the cold.

Residents of Eastern Oregon who are shivering under the merciful drop may be thankful that they are not undergoing the extreme cold weather experienced in 1883, which, according to all available records was the banner year for cold weather Eastern Oregon has ever experienced since first settled.

In 1883, on February 5, the mercury dropped to 33 below at seven o'clock p. m. at Union and was 37 below at North Powder. On February 6 it was 38 below at Union and on February 7 34 below at Union and 31 below at North Powder. At this time the courthouse was situated in Union and W. T. Wright was County Clerk. The above records had been entered on Mr. Wright's book of deeds and are considered authentic.

Four feet of snow fell that blocked railroad traffic for three days.

Horns Frozen from Cattle.

"Just a minute," said J. L. Caviness today as different ones were telling of the cold weather in years gone by. "For I can tell you something about cold weather which may seem strange but nevertheless is true. In 1883 I was buying cattle over Eastern Oregon and at North Powder some of the cattle I received had their horns slipped. I inquired why they appeared with their jewelry on crooked and was told that they had frozen their horns off. Investigation proved this to be the fact."

Frank Ely, who has known the valley for some time told of instances in years past when the mercury actually froze up and quit working because of the cold weather. When the story of ex-County Clerk Wright's notation on the records relative to the thermometer reading at North Powder was mentioned, Mr. Ely said he believed Mr. Wright was correct for that year was a bad one throughout Eastern Oregon.

W. J. Townley, who came to Union county from Iowa in 1887 was working at the Sanger mines as superintendent in 1888. He said he well remembered riding from Sanger to Baker one day in 1888 when the thermometer was 16 below zero at Sanger and when he reached Baker it was 20 below. "It was stated in Baker then that there was no thermometer in North Powder that would register low enough to register the cold wave."

When Lou Stoop heard these remarks he told of going home from a dance in Cove in the winter of 1888 and almost freezing to death while walking two miles. "And I'll tell you another thing," said Lou, "if the chap who jiggles this weather business around is going to bring back those cold winters on us again he had better be informed that the Volstead act is in operation in Eastern Oregon, for cold winters and a dry country are not companionable."

CLEMENCEAU BIDS GOODBY TO AMERICA

NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—Satisfied that he has accomplished his mission in America, Georges Clemenceau, the Tiger of France, sailed for his home today on the liner Paris. Up early as usual, he was ready to wave farewell to the United States whom he wishes to join with France in working out Europe's after-the-war problems.

GRANGE TO HOLD A TAX MEETING

Special Gathering Called for Members and Officials to Discuss Plans.

Now that the day for convening the Biennial session of the Oregon legislature is near at hand, members of the Blue Mountain Grange stress the situation in the proper manner, for they have called a meeting of their grange on Saturday, December 16th, for the purpose of discussing tax reduction and farm legislation.

On that day, members of the legislature from this district, Governor-elect Walter M. Pierce and members of the county court have been invited to be present. It is intended to have a number of grangers mobilize in the Blue Mountain Grange hall and the day will be given over to a round table discussion of the one burning issue, that of tax reduction. W. R. Geckler, state deputy master of the Oregon State Grange has issued a call for the meeting and has sent out invitations to the different officials. It is believed that the outcome of this gathering will have some effect upon the attitude of the State Grange in its campaign for farm legislation before the coming legislature.

Andrew The Christmas No. THIS IS TO CERTIFY CHRISTMAS STORE this town.

BIRDS OF A FEATHER FLOCK TOGETHER



ARMY - NAVY DEPARTMENTS MAY BE ONE

Consolidation of the War and Navy Departments Is Recommended.

CABINET WOULD BE INCREASED BY ONE

President Harding May Present Plan to Congress With Administration's Opinion of Proposed Change.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—Consolidation of the army and navy departments in the department of national defense under a cabinet member with assistants in charge of the army and navy respectively, has been definitely recommended to President Harding by Walter F. Bowman, head of the commission appointed to prepare a plan of governmental reorganization. President Harding may lay Brown's recommendations before congress with a special message giving the administration opinion on each change suggested.

EXTRA

ASTORIA ASKS FOR \$3,000,000

ASTORIA, Dec. 12.—Answering Astoria's request that the government aid Astoria with \$3,000,000, came Senator Stanfield's wire today that he would support the request.

CALIFORNIA SUPPORTS

SACRAMENTO, Dec. 12.—Governor Stephens today wired President Harding urging approval of Astoria's request for a \$3,000,000 relief appropriation.

BILL INTRODUCED

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—Senator McNary introduced a resolution for \$3,000,000 appropriation to Astoria relief. It was referred to the appropriations committee.

CHARDON, Ill., Dec. 12.—The trial of five men accused of murder in connection with the Heroin mine killings began today.

ARMENIANS SHUNNED BY OTTOMANS

(By The Associated Press) LAUSANNE, Dec. 12.—Turkey today refused to assign any special post of Turkey as a national home for the Armenians.

INDIVIDUALISM EARLY TEACHING

Christ Taught Individualism When on Earth, is the Statement of the Speaker.

Jesus Christ was the first teacher of individualism, asserted Governor Pierce last night at the Brotherhood meeting held in the Presbyterian church when he discussed the present civilization. His conclusion was that only two paths lay before the people of the world—either communism which is now being so unsuccessfully practiced in Russia, or individualism which has been practiced in a general way since Christ was on earth.

The speaker told of the teaching of Nazareth when he admonished every man that he might work out his own salvation, and by his acts he should be known, and drawing from this a comparison of the present day commercial life which also is based on individual effort.

While the attendance was not large the meeting was full of interest and all went well until the question was propounded to Rev. Quigley as to whether or not the world is growing better or worse. The ministers present took the stand that the world is growing better as did Governor Pierce, while there were those present who took the view that this age of materialism and selfishness is the fire that is slowly but surely consuming the world, and that unless there is a way found to re-establish Christianity in the hearts of men the end of civilization and the breaking up of the world is certain.

It was a "round-the-stove" meeting for the evening was chilly and Rev. Ross, acting as his own janitor, piled high the wood in the stove which sent cheerful heat into the bones of everyone present and caused each person to loosen up and speak his innermost mind.

E. D. Towler was chairman of the meeting. The Loney orchestra rendered several selections which were well received.

JAPANESE PRINCE ILL

(By The Associated Press) TOKYO, Dec. 12.—Hirakido, Prince regent, aged twenty-one, is seriously ill with the measles.

METHODISTS IN DISTRICT ARE WORKERS

Membership of Church in La Grande District Shows Gain and Support Given is Exceptional.

From a recent report issued by District Superintendent Ira R. Aldrich, of the Methodist church, the work in the La Grande district shows exceedingly well in comparison with other districts of the northwest. That La Grande has ever been a stronghold of the Methodist church is quite generally known but many did not realize that the La Grande district, which comprises four counties in Eastern Oregon and six counties in Southern Idaho, was almost a top-notch in church support and general work for the church.

The following extracts are taken from the report of Rev. Aldrich: In full membership the district made a gain in 1919 of 35, in 1920 of 72, in 1921 of 84 and in 1922 thus far of 77, making 266 in all for the four years or a net increase of 11 per cent. The Boise district shows a loss of 1 per cent and the Pocatello district a gain of 2 per cent.

The per capita contribution to ministerial support, based upon membership, in the three districts compares as follows:

Boise District	1919	1920	1921	1922	Aver.
	\$8.60	\$9.09	\$9.43	\$6.80	\$8.48
Pocatello District	1919	1920	1921	1922	Aver.
	\$3.78	\$10.21	\$10.25	\$9.73	\$9.99
La Grande District	1919	1920	1921	1922	Aver.
	\$13.23	\$13.25	\$12.67	\$11.96	\$12.77

The grand total of benevolent giving on the three districts shows a per capita result as follows:

Boise District, \$11.84; Pocatello District, \$14.08; La Grande District, \$16.01.

For the three years of the Centenary Missionary Program, which is now in progress, the La Grande District has led the Idaho Conference in the percentage paid upon its quota, and twice during that period has led the entire area. When the average for the Idaho Conference was 74 per cent, we had paid 93 per cent, and at the time (March 1921) when the average for the Helena Area was 57 per cent we had paid 71 per cent.

In the recent Church Paper Circulation among the nineteen northwest districts in the Helena and Portland areas, La Grande district stood third, Pocatello district stood fourth and Boise district fifteenth in the list.

At the present time six of the pastors of the district are assisting in the endowment campaign for Willamette University.

LAST KILLS SCORES OF MEN

(By The Associated Press) HAVANA, Dec. 12.—Thirty lives are believed lost in an explosion of boilers at Estrella Sugar Central at Caspedes, Camaguey province.

HAVANA, Dec. 12.—One hundred workmen were killed or injured Tuesday in a boiler explosion which wrecked the Estrella sugar mill near Camaguey. Thirteen bodies had been recovered up to 7 o'clock Tuesday evening and 40 injured persons were being cared for in Camaguey. Most of the victims are Spaniards.

Reserved Seat Sale for Junior Play is Now on

The reserved ticket sale for the "Arrival of Kitty" to be presented in the high school auditorium on Friday and Saturday evenings, went on sale this morning at the Glass Drug store, with many reservations being made with the opening. Many good seats still remain for both nights but those who hold tickets are urged to get them reserved as early as possible.

"The Arrival of Kitty" which is a three-act farce comedy, given by the Junior class, is a royalty play of high class quality which has met with a big success wherever presented.

The cast, under the directorship of Miss Bennett, are putting on the finishing touches and those who have been privileged to see the rehearsals state that the play is sure to be met with unanimous approval. Kitty, a stage actress, is the person whom the whole plot hinges

COAST IS TO SUPPLY TRADE WITH LUMBER

Charles S. Keith Issues Data of Interest to Future Lumber Supply.

LUMBER OF SOUTH IS GIVING OUT

High Cost of Operation in Pacific Coast States Will Make Lumber Higher Than Southern Product.

(Special to The Observer) WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—As a contribution to the general discussion of whether the present revival of prosperity and employment is merely a sort of "secondary inflation" soon to be followed by a long period of business lethargy and unemployment, the beginning of a firm period of business activity, the National Lumber Manufacturers' Association today made public a digest of a statement made on request by Charles S. Keith, of Kansas City, one of the largest lumber operators and business men of the South and Pacific Coast, and a recognized authority on industrial and economic conditions. Mr. Keith is confident that construction on a large scale will continue for a number of years and that the lumber industry will continue at the present level of activity for the next five years, with the implication that the whole country and all commercial and industry will be very active, with an abundance of employment.

"I think that perhaps apartment building construction has reached its limit for the time being," says Mr. Keith, "but there is a demand for buildings which may not represent as many dollars as the apartments, but will involve a large demand for lumber and call for steadily increased production and business in the nation-wide tendency back to the small house on the part of flat-dwellers. For a time there will not be much factory building, as the country was over-built in this respect during the war. If there should be a decline in building in the cities, I am satisfied that so far as lumber is concerned the industrial consumption and the demand from apartment districts will more than absorb any reduction in housing construction. Incidentally, I notice that 120,000 railway freight cars have been contracted for this year, which, I think, the largest number since 1907. Spending broadly, my opinion is that the building situation has not been scratched. Even if my conclusion in this respect is in error the changing conditions of the lumber industry are such that it will be faced to the utmost on the whole to meet the demands that will be placed upon it. I refer to the declining lumber mill capacity and production of the South, owing to the progressive depletion of the timber supply of that section. The decline of production there from now on will doubtless proceed faster for some time than the expansion of capacity and production in the West.

South Being Depleted. "A canvass of the Southern pine producing territory was made by the Southern Pine Association in 1915, covering 5,101 miles with an annual capacity of 16 billion feet. The apparent rate of depletion of timber revealed by this canvass, if realized by actual practice during the last five years, means that the annual lumber production capacity has been reduced approximately 5,250,000,000 feet in the South. Furthermore, the outlook, as shown by that survey, is that the lumber production of the South will decline 4,500,000,000 feet more in the next five years. Already the effect of the construction of the southern lumber supply is reflected in the fall operating time of the West Coast mills this year, together with a reduction in production in the West Coast mills.

Reserved Seat Sale for Junior Play is Now on

She has captured Winkler who wishes to marry her in time but his sister, Aunt Jane, does not approve of anything connected with the stage and the way they dress. Bobbie, a college man, has found the one he loves and is doing everything he can do to capture her, and she happens to be Aunt Jane's niece who returns Bobbie's love but they cannot get the consent of Mr. Winkler. And just how the double romance comes out will be made clear Friday and Saturday nights just before the final curtain.

The events leading up to the climax are puzzling and keeps the audience guessing as to just what the final outcome will be. The scenes are full of snap and good comedy with a new thrill worked in. Indications are that the entire play loving public will be in attendance.