

WITNESSES TESTIFY IN ARSON CASE

Eight Tell of the Circumstances Preceding Imbler's \$80,000 Fire

DESCRIBE SALE OF OIL TO ACCUSED

Borrowing of Lantern and Return of It, Apparently Unused, Related to Jurymen.

Eight of the 15 to 20 witnesses the state has marshaled for the prosecution of J. C. Blackington on an arson charge were called this morning to testify in support of the theory that the defendant for the purpose of collecting over-heavy insurance—fired his warehouse at Imbler the evening of Memorial Sunday, May 30, starting the blaze that subsequently consumed the Imbler elevator, the Martin warehouse, their contents, and the stockyards and scales nearby that belonged to the O. W. H. & N.

Four days before the fire, Blackington had visited young Furman, apparently with the intention of renewing the contract, which had always been an oral one, and of arranging to make some repairs.

Furman testified that he, with his father and brother, Walter, was the owner of the 18,000 apple boxes destroyed in the fire without any protection by insurance. The boxes were to have been moved the following day, he said.

With about 20 members of the department and guests present, the La Grande volunteer fire department staged its annual fish feed early last evening in the municipal building.

Fish were plentiful, largely due to the efforts of Tube and Nate Zweifel, who brought in a fine catch from Wallowa Lake and vicinity.

The menu included fish, potatoes, pickles, sour beer, bread, cheese, cookies and ice cream.

Among the guests were Commissioner Charles Playle, City Manager W. C. Greas and City Recorder J. E. Stearns.

Company E, La Grande, Will Arrive Here Early Tomorrow

A very prominent Wallowa business man, commenting on the results of the "good will" caravan of the Union county chamber of commerce, Monday, dropped a thought that quite well expresses the sentiment of his county.

"These La Grande business men are sure go-getters," he declared. "They not only TALK about going after business, but THEY GO AFTER IT!"

This man said he was amused and pleased with the efficiency of the entire caravan project. It stirred the good will in Wallowa county and lost the La Grander's nothing.

Each story The Observer prints about Wallowa county has been sent to every family in Wallowa county that can be reached by mail or carrier. As a result, The Observer's circulation is going ahead rapidly throughout Wallowa as well as Union county—lower readership and greater reader interest—the best advertising value the La Grande business men can buy.

"Observer Advertising—A Merchandising Service."

"Valley of Grande Ronde"

From the descendants of three pioneer families of the Grande Ronde valley, Mrs. Hester collected a number of fascinating incidents that he used in the essay he submitted from the sixth grade at Central school in the local history essay contest. He is one of the "honorable mention" group, whose manuscripts have contained much interesting reading.

Grande Ronde valley has a length of 25 miles and is 16 miles wide, and surrounded by the Blue mountain range. Through the valley in every form of graceful curves runs the Grande Ronde river.

Mr. Ben Brown, one of the early settlers and homesteaders entered the peaceful little valley during the year of 1841. There were nine men and two women and seven children. Mr. Brown gave 40 acres of land to build the town, which is now known as South La Grande. Mr. Brown built the first house and hotel. The hotel stood where

The Wing, Fin and Fleetfoot Club to Stage Fishermen's Contest July 11 and 12.

The Wing, Fin and Fleetfoot club's traditional fish feed will be held at 7 o'clock Monday evening, July 12, in the basement diningroom of the First Methodist church.

Prizes are offered to the fishermen's heart are slated among the awards for individual catches, two, three and four-pair catches, and the best three specimens of rainbow, eastern brook, dolly varden, bass and whitefish, bluegill and polecat, including a Shakespeare, fly-fishing rod, a leather vest and fish hooks, as well as necessities ranging all the way from haircuts to gasoline have been promised.

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CARAVAN TO LAKES SET FOR JULY 18

Chambers of Commerce Basket Celebration Was Planned Last Night

IRRIGATION HELD NEED OF COUNTY

Unionizing of Schools in Grande Ronde Valley Favored at Hot Lake Meeting.

HOT LAKE, June 29. (Special)—An all-Union county basket celebration, to the North Powder lakes Sunday, July 18, will probably be the first visible results of the meeting of the council of county chambers of commerce held at Hot Lake last evening.

Plans are being carefully made to make the eighteenth a real county get-together, with the idea of promoting intra-county friendships and of selling the North Powder lakes to this district. The road, the committee assures the county, is in good condition and any car can make the climb. Traffic will be carefully handled under the one-way system. Cars ascending will be given the right of way before 11 o'clock and after 1, all traffic will be closed except to those coming down.

Forrestrom Chairman. Carl J. Forrestrom, of North Powder, is chairman of the event and he has chosen as his committee Dr. Phy, Hot Lake, Newell Martens, Union, C. C. Good, Cover Earl Reynolds, La Grande and R. W. Buford, Elgin.

Many matters of more general and permanent nature, in most instances agricultural nature, were also considered at the meeting here. The committee believes the future of the county lies in diversified farming and that some plan of irrigation and drainage is necessary. The witness William B. Wright, a special prosecutor under W. C. T. L. fund in Pennsylvania defended Baird's course and his own under an attack by Chairman Reed, who said it was "illegal" and contrary to good government for public officials to remain on private payrolls.

George Washington served as commander of the revolution without pay," argued Wright. "I don't want to argue with you," Reed retorted. "But there is a wide gulf and a deep sea between your services and George Washington's."

For a short time the committee

Local Men to Meet Tonight to Plan for Organization of Scout Headquarters Here.

A committee of 20 local men will meet at the Foley for dinner tonight at 6:15 o'clock to consider a plan for securing money to promote boy scout work in La Grande, according to W. C. Perkins, chairman of the publicity committee.

The money is needed to provide La Grande boys with a well-equipped camp to be used as a training center for all boy scouts. Mr. Perkins said. The camp will be under the direction of a trained scout worker who will make it an interesting place for boys to be and will at the same time give leadership of a character-building type and character training. The money will also help pay a full-time scout worker who will organize.

Eight-Year-Old Child Dies Following Burns

PACATELLO, Ida., June 29. (AP)—Violet Cowley, eight year old granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. McDonald of Pocatello, died today from burns received when she slipped from a match struck by a little boy companion and lit.

D'Autremont Suspects Held in Georgia, Illinois

ATLANTA, Ga., June 29. (AP)—Efforts will be made today to identify a man being held at Douglas, Ga., as one of the three D'Autremont brothers charged with the murder of four men in a train robbery near Siskiyou, Ore., Oct. 11, 1923.

COMMITTEE TO INQUIRE IN DAKOTA

Senator Nye Charges Skush Fund in Middle Western State

SESSION TODAY SHORT, SNAPPY

Senate Campaign Funds Board Further Follows Tangled Pennsylvania Problems.

WASHINGTON, June 29. (AP)—At a short, swift session today the senate campaign funds committee pursued still further the tangled trail of prohibition enforcement in Pennsylvania and received a request that it investigate skush funds charges in North Dakota.

Senator Pepper, defeated for the republican nomination in the Pennsylvania primary, took the stand and made emphatic denial that he had connived at any arrangement by which the Pittsburgh saloons could open wide just before the primary in the Mellon-Pepper-Pittsburgh stronghold of Western Pennsylvania.

Saloons Operate. Senator Pepper's appearance on the witness stand resulted from suggestions in previous testimony that Prohibition Administrator Baird had been transferred from Pittsburgh to Philadelphia on the eve of the Pennsylvania primary at the behest of administration influences and that immediately afterward the Pittsburgh saloons became broader in the operations at the same time that Pepper-Pittsburgh saloons were displayed in their windows.

The senator declared he had nothing whatever to do with the Baird transfer. Holds It "Illegal." Later, with another witness on the stand the committee returned to the question of Baird's services as prohibition administrator. Formerly an official of the Bessemer and Lake Erie railroad the administrator drew a salary from the road while he was in the federal service. The witness William B. Wright, a special prosecutor under W. C. T. L. fund in Pennsylvania defended Baird's course and his own under an attack by Chairman Reed, who said it was "illegal" and contrary to good government for public officials to remain on private payrolls.

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POLA NEGRI TO WED VALENTINO, HER MOTHER SAYS

CHICAGO, June 29. (AP)—The Chicago Journal today quoted Mrs. Eleanor Chaluppe, mother of Pola Negri, screen star, as saying her daughter would wed Rudolph Valentino next March.

The Journal interviewed the mother and her secretary, Leopold Brodzinski, and said the latter remarked that Pola would "wait and see how much she likes him," referring to Rudolph. The mother will sail July 7 for France to occupy Mrs. Negri's villa near Paris, where Pola will join next March and the marriage will take place shortly thereafter, the Journal said.

William Miller Resigns As President of U.S. Bank Here

On the resignation of William Miller, who for 15 years has been the president of the United States National bank, August J. Stange has been elected by the board of directors to head the institution. Mr. Miller explains that his personal business requires more attention than he could give it in conjunction with the duties of being a banker. He expects to devote his entire time now to his loan and insurance business in La Grande and the care of his large orchard holdings.

Stange Advanced. Mr. Stange having been advanced from the vice presidency

Countess of Cathcart, Fiance



Ashes of the notorious "turpitude" immigration case are to be buried under a new name. Vera, Countess of Cathcart, is reported engaged to Gibson Boscawen in London. The countess was denied admission to the United States when she admitted to immigration officials that she had stayed to South Africa with the Earl of Craven "without benefit of clergy." Here she is with Boscawen.

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8,000 HOMELESS IN LEON, MEXICO; RED CROSS AIDS

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Funds are needed, he said, for shelter and to remove debris and refuse to guard against the danger of epidemics. So far there are no American reports of missing. The American Red Cross is making a study in view of sending additional supplies in addition to \$5,000 already sent.

Authorize Van Winkle To Draft Tentative Bill

SALEM, Ore., June 29. (AP)—At the conclusion of the conference here yesterday of the state tax investigating committee, Attorney General Van Winkle was instructed to draft a tentative bill providing for the taxation of intangibles, the measure to become part of the program to be submitted by the committee to the 1927 legislature. It is proposed to tax intangibles at a low rate which has not yet been decided on. It is said that in other states the rate averages about 5 mill, the intangibles being assessed according to actual value. Just what will be classed as intangibles has not been agreed upon but the bill is expected to include money, accounts, stocks not taxed in this state, bonds and mortgages.

ACCUSE DAD OF SLAYING DAUGHTER

Wallace Cloyes Gains Arrested Today on Murder Charge

FATHER ADMITS HAVING QUARREL

Prosecutor Colvin Declares He has Been "Getting New Evidence"—Won't Divulge.

SEATTLE, June 29. (AP)—Wallace Cloyes Gains, of this city, was arrested today accused of beating and choking his daughter, Sylvia Howard Gains, to death about one hour after she left his home the night of June 18 for a solitary walk. He was held without bail.

Information filed by Prosecutor Colvin in the (King) county charged that Gains "with pre-meditated design did effect the death of Sylvia Gains with a rock or some other instrument unknown."

Quarrelled With Sylvia. Gains, on the stand yesterday in a coroner's inquest which adjourned today when Colvin announced he was ready to arrest the father, admitted that he and Sylvia had a rift over a proposed automobile trip just before she left the house.

Previously he had stated that he and his wife quarrelled about Sylvia, but when she was arrested from California, where it was said the quarrel was over her husband's drinking and that when she shot herself last winter she was nervous from trying to keep up with her husband's dissipation as she said she was unable alone to do so with Sylvia.

"I have been given new evidence all the time of threats, admissions, etc. that Wallace Gains has made," explained Colvin. Asked what threats and admissions he meant, Colvin replied: "I cannot and will not discuss any evidence at this time."

"The fact that this man served with me in the same regiment in

CONFESSES THAT HE SCHEMED TO KILL MUSSOLINI

ROME, June 29. (AP)—Tito Zaniboni, former socialist deputy, has confessed that he planned to shoot Premier Mussolini, according to a report on the attorney general's investigation of the case made public today. Zaniboni was arrested October 4, last, armed with a rifle, in a hotel room overlooking the balcony of the Chigi palace from which the premier was to deliver his address.

The attorney general's report says Zaniboni admitted carrying on anti-fascist activities, which he characterized as "defensive, rather than offensive," and finally decided to take decisive action with the aid of a few persons.

When the time came to carry the plans through, however, Zaniboni insisted that he be permitted to act at once, thus assuming sole responsibility.

A Rome dispatch June 8 said five of the 13 men originally arrested in connection with the Zaniboni plot would be tried. The trial, it was stated, would probably be held in July, and the prisoners would be charged with plotting to assassinate the premier, to foment civil war and to overthrow the fascist regime.

Two Who Kidnaped Aimee Are Held in Mexico, Times Avers

LOS ANGELES, June 29. (AP)—The Los Angeles Times says that according to information received last night from Douglas, Ariz., the man and the woman known as "Steve" and "Rose" who kidnaped Aimee McPherson, Los Angeles evangelist, declares kidnaped her and held her prisoner in a shack on the Mexican desert, have been definitely located in Nacozari, Mexico.

The pair are under surveillance of the Mexican authorities, the newspaper says, and upon expiration of their permit they will be escorted across the border near Agua Prieta. Then on American soil they will be formally taken into custody on suspicion of kidnaping. It is understood, the Times states, that the man and the woman watched at Nacozari, are in Mexico on a five-day permit which has been renewed.

Discovery of the pair followed earlier knowledge obtained by Douglas police that the two had been in the Arizona city on June 19; that they had addressed one another as "Steve" and "Rose" and had abandoned a light car there.

It was discovered, the Times says, that a car driven by a man, had crossed into Mexico at Nogales, Ariz., and at Agua Prieta had been met by "Steve" and "Rose" and another woman.

Two days before Mrs. McPherson appeared at Agua Prieta, the man and woman were seen in the car at Esquedra, the newspaper says its information stated. Mexican authorities are now said to be checking at Caborzona, 16 miles southeast of Agua Prieta, to learn, if possible, where the car's passengers spent the two days between the time they left Agua Prieta and their arrival at Esquedra.

QUAKE DAMAGE FIGURE IS HIGH

Candia District Reports a Loss of 50 Million Drachmas—Many Killed in Suidra

ATHENS, Greece, June 29. (AP)—The total damage done by the earthquake in the Candia district last Saturday is estimated at 50,000,000 drachmas. (The normal value of the drachma is about 1/3 cent).

One hundred and twenty houses were razed in Candia and five hundred others were rendered unsafe. Two thousand others had their walls cracked.

One village was totally destroyed, but no lives were lost.

BATAVIA, Java, June 29. (AP)—Yesterday's earthquake in Central Sumatra has resulted in many casualties, according to reports received here from Padang, capital of Sumatra. A large number of buildings collapsed at Forty Dekok. The governor's residence at Padang and the homes of many Europeans have been reported badly damaged.

Reports also have been received that the town of Holok was set afire by the quake.

Bulletins

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