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COMMERCIAL CLUB MEETING

The Club Held a Very Interesting Meeting Wednesday

There was a good attendance of the members at the regular meeting of the Commercial club last night, and some important business was transacted. On account of both the president and the vice-president being absent from the city, the chair was occupied by Mr. Welch.

A letter, a copy of which was published in The Morning Mail recently, stating that President W. P. Stark, of the Missouri state board of horticulture, and James M. Irvine, the editor of the Western Fruit-Grower, expected to be in Medford next Saturday and stating that they would like to meet some of the citizens and the fruitgrowers. The secretary was instructed to write and invite them to come.

Another letter, a copy of which also appeared in The Morning Mail, was read from the good roads committee at Portland, stating that they would like to have a county meeting arranged for to be held in this city on September 24, and that the state organizer, Judge John H. Scott, would be here then. The object is to work up an interest in the movement.

It was also stated in the letter that it would be necessary to raise the sum of \$200 for expenses, and a committee was appointed to do this and arrange for the meeting at the time stated. The following was the committee appointed: I. W. Vawter, J. M. Root, J. P. Reddy, C. H. Ray.

The matter of getting free mail delivery for Medford was taken up and Assistant Postmaster Woodford said that what was mostly required in order to get this was for the houses to be numbered and sidewalks laid. Regarding the postage receipts, Mr. Woodford stated that last November it reached the required amount of \$10,000, and now the receipts are over \$13,000. This matter was turned over to the ordinance committee of the club.

Arrangements were also made for the meeting, and the entertainment of E. H. Harriman and Governor Chamberlain when they arrive in the city.

The following new members were admitted to the club: W. H. Rainford, C. E. Crater, George Preddy, J. G. Rogers.

WAS FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH.

TOMBSTONE, ARIZ., Aug. 15.—General Wardell, a veteran of the Mexican and civil wars, died today while in quarantine with his leper wife. Her sufferings from combined effects of leprosy and the nervous strain attendant on the notoriety of the case, has debilitated her reason and she is totally unaware of her husband being dead.

The efforts to deport Mrs. Wardell to the leper colony at Molokai have brought out many complications, the federal authorities refusing to aid and the territorial officials being unable to act under the present law. It is probable that Mrs. Wardell will remain isolated here and cared for until her death.

TOMBSTONE, ARIZ., Aug. 19.—Another sensational feature developed today in the Mrs. Wardell leprosy case, when it was learned that Mrs. Wardell escaped from the quarters and her present whereabouts is unknown. The indications are that the woman escaped about midnight last night, and it is presumed she boarded a southern Pacific train for California, heavily veiled and gloved to hide the unmistakable marks of leprosy.

Since the authorities are not active in their efforts to apprehend her it is believed that friends have rendered her financial aid to further her escape. Mrs. Wardell is also suffering from dementia and refuses to believe her husband is dead.

PORTLAND SELECTED.

Portland has been selected as the headquarters for the new district of the forestry service that will contain Oregon, Washington and Alaska and all the business that now goes to Washington, D. C., will come to Portland, where an office force of more than 50 clerks will be maintained. The moving of the offices to Portland will commence November 1 and will be completed by January 1, 1909.

The selection of Portland as head of the district follows the action of the forestry service in dividing the country into six districts and handling the business of each district in one city in that particular district instead of sending it to Washington. In this manner delays from ten days to two months will be obviated and a much more satisfactory service maintained.

GREAT MEN GATHER.

They Will Confer With President Roosevelt Today.

NEW YORK, Aug. 19.—Several men prominent in national Republican politics will gather in Oyster Bay tomorrow as guests at luncheon of President Roosevelt. They will include Chairman Hitchcock and Representative Sherman. Among the subjects to be considered will be certain important issues to be discussed during the campaign.

In addition to the advisory committee, which will aid Treasurer Sheldon in collecting funds, the national committee in each state will be empowered to appoint a committee. The prohibition against corporations making contributions for campaign expenses is responsible for a thorough organization being effected.

An effort was made by Hitchcock today to communicate with Senator Foraker, who is in the city, but he had left Washington. Hitchcock will request that the senator address some important meetings in the east. In discussing the Ohio situation today, Foraker felt humiliated at not being invited to speak at Youngstown, September 5, the opening of the campaign. He said that, regardless of the differences with the Roosevelt administration he is ready to do all he could for the ticket.

FRUIT MUST BE MARKED.

A drastic law enacted in 1907 is of much interest to persons who grow or sell fruit. Under the provisions of this law every person, firm, association or corporation engaged in growing, packing or selling green fruits in Oregon is required to mark, stamp or label plainly on the outside of every box or package when packed, the name and address of the packer, and if the packer is not the grower, the name and address of the grower as well as of the packer must appear prominently upon the box or package.

It is made unlawful for any merchant, shipper or vendor to represent that any green fruit were raised, produced or grown by any other person than the one who actually raised them, or that they were raised or grown in any other place or locality than that in which they were actually grown.

Any violation of this law is punishable by fine or imprisonment or both, and the possession for the purposes of sale of any falsely or illegally marked box or package is made prima facie evidence that the person having such illegally marked box or package is the violator of the law. All persons are warned to conform with the provisions of this law.

MUST READ & WRITE ENGLISH.

A sensation was created in the federal court of Denver when Judge Lewis passed a new ruling, when throwing out half a dozen naturalization cases, in which he held that a foreign-born person must speak the English language before he can hold a clear title to a homestead.

"I cannot allow final papers to be given," said the court, "where the party seeking the same is unable to speak the English language. He cannot understand the laws of this country or any of the acts that go to prove his citizenship. He may have homesteaded upon land, but he must read and write English before he can secure his final papers and come before this court with a native born citizen who can swear he has known the subject for a period of five years."

The decision will result in invalidating many claims throughout this state, and it is claimed was made in accordance with the rulings from the naturalization office.

INTENDED TO KILL ALL.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 17.—Under promise of immunity, Peter Claudianes made a confession to District Attorney Langdon and William J. Burns on the train from Reno to this city Friday in which he admits his complicity in the dynamiting of the home of "Big" Jim Gallagher in East Oakland, and confirms every statement made through the publication of the confession of John Claudianes and which led to the arrest of the perpetrators of the outrage.

Peter Claudianes admitted that with his brother, John, he planned and carried out the plot to kill not only Gallagher, but the destruction of an entire household as well. He also admitted that he set off the second explosion which destroyed the unfinished house Gallagher was building.

Harry Thaw's Scheme.

NEW YORK, Aug. 14.—Daniel O'Reilly, one of Thaw's attorneys, declared today that no federal judge would issue an order directing the authorities of New York to permit Thaw to be taken to Pittsburgh as a witness in his bankruptcy proceedings. Comment in denial of the bankruptcy proceeding scheme to secure Thaw's release from the asylum will get him out of the jurisdiction of the New York authorities.

FOREST FIRES ON APPLAGATE

Fires Have Been Raging There For Several Days Past

C. P. Buck, the forest supervisor for the Mazama reserve, has but recently returned from a tour of inspection in the Butte Creek, Prospect and Dead Indian localities. His trip was made especially to familiarize himself with the conditions on the range as they now appear. He reports having found scarcely no fires in these localities, which is due to some extent to the fact that there have been several rainstorms there during the past 30 days, and what fires may have started have been put out by these showers and the ground so dampened that campers' fires have caused the rangers very little concern.

In the Applegate country, however, the conditions are vastly different. Here fires have been raging for several days past, and Tuesday Mr. Buck sent out seven men to assist the rangers in that district in putting them out. There has been no rain there and the forests are very dry. This fire is at the mouth of Little Applegate.

There is another fire southeast of Ashland which is keeping the rangers busy. A few days ago there was a big fire near Odessa, in Klamath county, but this has been put out. Four rangers and a number of laborers worked three days before the flames were subdued.

Mr. Buck is now laying plans for the establishment of a protective force of patrols for the Klamath Indian reservation. There have been fires in the reservation for about a month, but these Mr. Buck will now endeavor to have put out, and from this time on during the dry season there will be a fire patrol maintained by the forest service, and five men will be thus employed. In this matter the forest service will cooperate with the Indian bureau.

John D. Holt has been appointed a forest guard and will be stationed on Elliott and Applegate creeks. The forest service will erect two rangers' quarters in this section of the reserve.

LARGE REAL ESTATE DEAL.

The Kiser brothers, the gentlemen from South Dakota who last fall purchased the Jack Anderson place, south of Medford, and for which they paid \$40,000, have now made another investment, having purchased the Berry ranch, adjoining Jacksonville on the east. There are 1 1/2 acres of land in the tract, and the price paid was \$15,000.

Eighty acres of the land is now under cultivation and this fall all of this will be planted to apple and pear trees—half of each. The remainder of the land will be cleared and, too, will be set to fruit—in fact, some of it is now being cleared.

A younger brother of the two who purchased the tract will arrive in Medford soon from Los Angeles and will have charge of the place.

W. H. Brown has sold the remaining 20 acres of his Coker Butte orchard to F. E. and W. R. Adams of Grand Forks, N. D. For this he received \$12,500, and the deal was made by the W. S. York real estate agency.

This land is situated a few miles north and east from Medford and was purchased by Mr. Brown about three years ago—the entire tract of 40 acres—from Captain Carroll, paying \$7500 for the same. A few months ago Mr. Brown sold 20 acres of the tract for \$5000 and now he sells the remaining 20 acres for \$12,500, making a total of \$17,500, a net clean-up of \$10,000 for Mr. Brown in this short time, and besides this he has taken a good crop of fruit from it each season.

NO ENGINEER ON FLYER.

BATTLE CREEK, Mich., Aug. 14.—With Engineer Charles Stanz lying injured alongside the track and the fireman busy on the back of the tender, the Grand Trunk flyer, east bound, ran for miles yesterday afternoon with no guiding hand at the throttle and with the 300 passengers in the coaches calmly gazing out of the windows, ignorant of the fact that they were riding on a runaway train.

Finishing his work on the tender, the fireman returned to the cab to find the engineer's seat vacant. The fireman brought the train to a stop and backed it up until the engineer was found lying beside the track with his left arm and left leg broken, one shoulder crushed and his skull fractured.

It is supposed the engineer lost his balance in leaning from the window or got out to look for a hot box. He was taken to Nichols hospital here, where it was said there is a chance he might recover.

FLEET IN AUSTRALIA.

A Warm Welcome Was Given It and Millions Saw It.

SYDNEY, N. S. W., Aug. 19.—Early this morning a thin veil of smoke on the horizon signaled the appearance of the American squadron and at 5:35 official notification was sent out that the fleet had been sighted. Though 20 miles away, news of the fleet being in sight stirred the Australians like a call to arms, and almost instantly every point of vantage was occupied. It was estimated that there was not less than half a million people to give the visitors royal welcome.

In almost perfect alignment the warships came over the horizon, first a little smoke showing, then hulls, low down in the distance. Passing through the heads in double column the fleet was met by hundreds of steamers and other water craft and thousands on shore and afloat adding noisily welcome to the whistles. The American ships boomed forth a salute to the port and as soon as they were safely moored official visits were exchanged.

BOB EVANS RETIRES.

LAKE MOHONK, Aug. 18.—Far from the grim warships and sea where he spent nearly half a century in the service of his country, Rear-Admiral Evans, who is at this quiet mountain resort, reached the age limit of 62 years today and passed from the ranks of the country's active sea-fighters. He has seen the longest service of any man who has reached the office of rear-admiral in the American navy.

All through the day the hotel was thronged with admirers of "Fighting Bob," anxious to congratulate him, and telegrams by the score reached him from all parts of the country, all expressing felicitations and affection. Some of these brought delighted smiles to the admiral's face and others brought just a suspicion of moisture to his eyes.

The formal celebration in his honor took place this evening in the large parlors of the mountain hotel. The room was gaily decorated, but the feature which attracted the most attention was the battle-scarred flag which the admiral carried during the fight with the Spanish fleet at Santiago. J. Edward Symmons of New York acted as the presiding officer. He delivered an eulogy of the admiral.

A large number of letters from men distinguished in public and private life were read.

Following the reading of the letters, several impromptu addresses eulogizing the admiral were read. After the audience has sung "America," Dr. Andrew S. Draper of New York presented on behalf of the guests of the hotel a gold-lined silver loving cup.

Just at the close of the exercises a birthday cake, containing 62 lighted candles was brought into the room. This seemed to please the admiral more than any other part of the ceremonies.

ALL FOR A MAN.

NEW ORLEANS, La., Aug. 19.—Streetcar traffic was blocked for a time in Royal street when two girls fought over a young man early today on the tracks of the New Orleans Street Railway company. The fight was a rough-and-tumble affair and lasted for about ten minutes.

The passengers of the blocked cars alighted and cheered the belligerents on until a policeman appeared and placed the girls under arrest. In the meantime a blond-haired young man, the cause of the trouble, beat a hasty retreat.

The girls, who gave their names as Ella Martin and Marguerite Meyers, were each fined \$20 when arraigned in the second recorder's court later today.

WALKED A THOUSAND MILES.

PONTIAC, Ill., Aug. 17.—A record of walking over 1000 miles, accompanied by his wife, a 10-year-old son and a 15-month-old child, in quest of work, appears never to have been equaled, but such is the story of John Henry Porter of Red Bank, Pa.

Wheeling a baby carriage and pushing a small express wagon, Porter and his family left Red Bank, Pa., on March 4 for the west. They traveled through Ohio to Chicago, tramped southward to Joliet, and learning that an electric road at Pontiac was building an extension, came here, arriving this morning.

MUST BE HUGHES.

NEW YORK, Aug. 17.—Replying to the newspaper comment and inquiries about his attitude toward the Republican gubernatorial nomination, President Churman of Cornell furnished a statement in which he declared there was only one man for the Republicans to nominate, and that was Governor Hughes. He says to do otherwise would be to repudiate the reform policies which the Republican party, not alone in New York, but throughout the union, is today committed to.

THE MURDER OF W. E. ANNIS

Interest in the Case Is Growing Stronger Day by Day

NEW YORK, Aug. 19.—Each hour brings a new sensation in the case of Captain Peter C. Hains, who killed William E. Annis Saturday night, and today the military post at Fort Hamilton is shivering with fear of impending exposures.

"The killing of Annis by Hains was expected by every army officer at Fort Hamilton," said an officer stationed there today. "The worst of it is that at any time two other tragedies of the same sort may occur as the result of orgies which have disgusted every decent officer here, and of which one feature was the expulsion of Mrs. Hains and Annis from the fort after the captain's return from the Philippines. Every officer in the fort dreads the inquest tonight and fears the exposures that are practically certain to be made. The decent officers and their wives naturally dread the revelations, which certainly will result in wholesale transfers from this post."

M. J. Rowan today told how he and Lieutenant M. P. Andrews prevented Captain Hains from killing his wife with a revolver, which he had pressed against her head. He said they heard a woman's screams, and rushing into the Hains house found the captain clutching his wife's throat. Rowan said Andrews snatched the weapon from Hains' hand and that Mrs. Hains screamed: "My God, Pete, don't shoot. I can't die now! Let me go!"

Rowan said Hains told Lieutenant Andrews what Annis had done and swore he would kill him, saying: "That man Annis, whom I thought my friend, has wrecked my home. She has confessed. Wait till I get that cur Annis!"

Rev. Henry Houghton today said: "Annis knew that he was paying with his life for a wrong he had committed. He told me things which I have yet told to no one. I will tell them to the coroner's jury. I say nothing against Annis, I only say that he knew Hains had a grievance against him."

NEW YORK, Aug. 19.—After being out 22 minutes, the coroner's jury tonight brought in a verdict that William E. Annis, who was killed at Bayside Saturday, came to his death as a result of a pistol shot wound inflicted by Captain Peter C. Hains, Jr., U. S. N., aided and abetted by T. Jenkins Hains, his brother. When the verdict was announced there was a demonstration.

A crowd gathered around T. Jenkins Hains and began to question him. He was asked if he felt justified in holding a crowd at bay while his brother shot Annis. Before he could answer, John F. McIntyre, the counsel for Captain Hains, shouted, "No, no; don't answer that question."

Before the inquest McIntyre made a statement to the Associated Press in which he said in substance that his clients and General Hains told him four persons, one of whom is a prominent New York lawyer, were present when the confession was made by Mrs. Hains. He says these witnesses will testify at the trial. He is also told that Mrs. Hains talked to several persons regarding the incidents related in the confession, and those persons will be witnesses.

The lawyer says when Hains came back from the Philippines his wife convinced him his suspicions were wrong. Later he says facts developed which made him demand a confession from his wife and she made it.

Major John P. Hains made a statement to the Associated Press before the inquest in answer to a question if he thought his brother was justified in shooting Annis out giving him a chance to protect himself. The major answered by relating a personal experience at Fort Riley.

"I was about to put on my boot one morning when I found a snake in it. I quickly drew my revolver and shot the snake. It is the same with my brother. I do not believe he should have given Annis a chance."

"Knowing what you do about the case, would you do the same thing?" "I most certainly would," replied the major.

He said Thornton and himself tried to dissuade Peter from killing Annis for the sake of their gray-haired father and mother. "Peter would have killed Annis sooner had it not been for this."

MAKES NOVEL DEFENSE.

A Cashier of the Postal Telegraph Company Under Arrest.

NEW ORLEANS, Aug. 19.—Something of a novel defense was made in the first city criminal court by John R. Petrich, formerly cashier of the Postal Telegraph company in this city, when he was placed on trial on the charge of having stolen \$19,000 from the company about a year ago. Petrich claims that during the strike of the operators employed by the Postal Telegraph company during 1907, the concern received messages and charged full tolls on them and then sent them all or part of the way by mail. After making this point, his counsel set forth the claim that such money collected did not lawfully belong to the Postal Telegraph company, and therefore the company could not charge embezzlement when Petrich's shortage occurred during the strike.

Petrich left New Orleans when the shortage was discovered, but was later arrested in New Mexico and brought back for trial.

IN WASHINGTON NOT OREGON.

The recent marriage at Seattle of a 13-year-old girl has brought up the subject of how young a girl can marry by having the consent of her parents. According to a dispatch from Seattle, the following has been found to be the case:

Under the statutes of the state of Washington there is no law preventing the marriage of a baby to a grown man, where the consent of the parents of the minor is given. This fact was revealed by the issuance of a marriage license to Edward Emel, aged 21, and Rosie Aranson, aged 13, with the consent of the girl's father. The prosecuting attorney was consulted by the marriage license clerk as to the legality of issuing the marriage license for a child in years, and was informed that, under the law, if the parent gave his consent, the license must be issued, no question of an age limit being raised.

To the credit of Oregon, it can be stated that this state of affairs does not exist here. In order to make sure of this, City Attorney Holbrook Withington was consulted by a Morning Mail reporter and he made the following statement: "For a girl to marry in Oregon, she must be 15 years of age and a boy must be 18. To marry without the consent of the parents in this state, each must be of age."

The indications are that the law regarding this matter in the state of Washington will be changed at the next session of the legislature.

MEN DESERTING THEIR WIVES.

NEW YORK, Aug. 14.—Hard times are the cause of a widespread epidemic of wife desertion in the poorer districts of the city, according to reports turned in by the visitors of the Children's Aid society. In the instance cited by Mrs. Edith McKinley, the visitor of the East Eighty-eighth street station, the primeval instinct of the survival of the fittest is responsible for the epidemic.

"Conditions in my district are really so terrible," said Mrs. McArthur, "that I believe that if work is not forthcoming immediately for the men the whole neighborhood will degenerate into a condition which will shock New York. The sufferings the people have been through and which many are still experiencing are having a bad emotional effect. The instinct of self-preservation is becoming stronger than love of wife and children."

GOVERNOR JOHNSON.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Aug. 19.—Governor Johnson was renominated by the Democrats of this state today. Following the mention of his name by Mayor Lawler of St. Paul, the convention stamped for Johnson. A wild demonstration ensued. Standards were waved and delegates, headed by a brass band, marched through the hall.

Then a messenger was sent to notify the governor by telephone, and his return was awaited with suspense, as the governor had previously stated emphatically he would not run again.

When asked tonight if he would accept the nomination, the governor said: "I have not been officially notified of my nomination, so I have nothing to say."

In addition to the nomination of Governor Johnson, the following were selected: Lieutenant governor, Julius G. Reiter of Rochester; secretary of state, Richard T. Lamb of Clayton; treasurer, Henry P. Nelson of Hibbing; attorney-general, M. C. Matthews of Marshall.

Burned the Fences.

Fire was started in some way along the Southern Pacific railroad track, south of the city, yesterday afternoon, and about 900 feet of fencing belonging to Mr. Renshaw was burned. One Western Union telegraph pole was burned nearly off and several electric light poles were quite badly scorched.

FAIR OUTLOOK VERY FAVORABLE

First Southern Oregon Agricultural Fair To Be Held Here

(From Sunday's Daily.) Yesterday J. A. Perry, the president of the First Southern Oregon District Agricultural society fair, and E. D. Andrews, the superintendent, in company with an architect and contractor, drove around the outskirts of the city with a view of finding a location for a fair grounds.

The place finally selected is where the old racetrack is situated, near the old distillery on North Central avenue. Not only has it a half-mile racetrack that could be put in good condition, but it is near both the Southern Pacific and the Pacific & Eastern railways, which would make it very handy for loading and unloading during the fair time.

The plans for all the buildings that will be needed and the estimates for the same are now being prepared by the architects and contractors, Perkins & Janney, and the officers of the society will hold a meeting in a few days to consider the same. If the cost will not be too great work will be begun on them within a week or two, and everything will be made ready for the fair this fall.

The posters announcing the fair are now being put out and it is described as an agricultural and horticultural fair for Jackson and Josephine counties. The dates will be October 1, 2 and 3, and the railroads will give reduced rates for these days.

The officers of the Rogue River valley industrial fair are: J. A. Perry, president; J. D. O'Neil, vice-president; J. E. Watt, secretary; J. S. Orth, treasurer; E. D. Andrews, superintendent of fair; finance committee, J. A. Perry, J. D. O'Neil, E. T. Staples; executive committee, J. A. Perry, J. D. O'Neil, E. T. Staples.

LATEST IN HIGH LIFE.

NEW YORK, Aug. 15.—A "trial separation," not a "trial marriage," nevertheless, is a sensation that has upset the poise of society in the village of Dobbs Ferry.

The principals in the affair are Luther W. P. Norris, president of the Linderman Piano company, New York, and his wife, Martha Ivis Norris.

Last Tuesday the couple, who have lived together in all outward appearances for three years, decided to not live together for at least six months and perhaps a year.

Prior to the completion of the arrangements they called on the Rev. John Trout, pastor of the First Presbyterian church of Dobbs Ferry, of which church they are members, and laid the case before him.

The Rev. Mr. Trout approved the matter and satisfied Mr. Norris, who was formerly the superintendent of his Sunday school, that it would be the proper thing. The result was that last Tuesday several big vans drove up to the Norris domicile after the head of the family departed for his office. They backed up to the front door and commenced moving furniture. Everything owned by Mrs. Norris was transferred to the vans, including even a half sack of flour and several frying pans. The entire lot was carted to Yonkers and placed in storage.

Meanwhile Mrs. Norris departed from the residence in the automobile of her brother, Kenneth Ives, a real estate dealer of Dobbs Ferry. She left the town and is now in Ridgelytown, Conn., living with friends.

PEAR PICKING HAS BEGUN.

(From Wednesday's Daily.) G. A. Morse, owner of the Wagner Butte orchards, will soon commence picking his pear crop. To a Morning Mail representative he told yesterday that he had a better crop of fruit this season than last—and last year there was no small crop.

He will have six or seven carloads of pears this year and one of these will be the celebrated prize-taking and money-getting Comice. He will also have seven or eight carloads of apples—and primes! My, he says he has a lot of them, and he would not now be feeling badly had the frost ruined them a little—still, as isn't inviting any frosts for next season.

F. E. Merrick: "I have a splendid crop of fruit this season. As a matter of fact, that's the kind I have every year. My orchard is about 300 feet higher than the valley orchards and as a result I do not have to commence picking quite as early as I those do who are on lower land. I will commence next Monday on Bartlett pears. I expect I will have six carloads of these and Winter Nellis."