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**HERE AND THERE ABOUT THE CITY**  
Little Items of Interest to Herald Readers Culled From All Over the Rose City.

Several hundred women met Monday at the opening session of the eighth quadrennial convention of the Neighbors of Woodcraft in the organization's headquarters, 394 Taylor street. Representatives and grand officers to the number of 251 from the voting body of the gathering and other members from Portland and vicinity are present to swell the attendance. All the representatives from the nine western states of the district—Montana, Washington, California, Nevada, Utah, Wyoming, Colorado, Idaho and Oregon—were present when the conference opened in the morning. The team and chorus from Seattle arrived Wednesday night.

Fourteen positive and suspected cases of diphtheria developed at the Y. M. C. A. boys' camp at Spirit Lake, Wash., last week and early in the present. They have all been returned to Portland and the other boys in the camp are said to be free from the disease, showing negative cultures. The boys were all placed in quarantine in the city isolation hospital and other hospitals by the health officer, Dr. L. Howard Smith of Portland was sent to the camp as soon as the seriousness of the epidemic became apparent.

The police are searching for an auto masher who endeavored to force the 12-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Carlson of 24 E. 15th street into his car Monday noon. She screamed and attracted the attention of passers-by, who rushed to her assistance, whereupon the man struck the girl heavily in the face, swore at her and speeded up his machine, escaping without leaving any clue to his identity, beyond a description furnished by the child. The affair occurred on the east approach of the Burnside bridge.

The Portland local of the sailors' union by unanimous vote Monday night rejected the proposed agreement on wages and working conditions by the shipowners' association

of the Pacific coast as a basis of settlement of the marine strike which has been in progress since May 1. The rejection was due to minor objections to the pact submitted, according to union officials, who expressed the opinion that they could be overcome by negotiations. The proposed wage cut from \$90 to \$77.50 per month was acceptable. The marine firemen, oilers and water tenders voted earlier in the day to reject a similar agreement.

Fred Wright, who has been prominent in the Portland market and the police court as a result of his escapades on the market, has been expelled from the Hubbard Berry and Fruit Growers' association, according to J. E. Sinclair of Hubbard, who was secretary of the association at the time of Wright's expulsion. According to Mr. Sinclair the Hubbard growers are doing everything they can to bring before the patrons of the Portland markets that Wright was never appointed as their sales manager and they feel the adverse criticism that has been brought upon their organization by his actions. The association also changed its name in an effort to escape the bad repute attached to the association as a result of Wright's actions.

Dr. C. E. Kline, pioneer Methodist minister, who was known throughout the state for many years as one of the outstanding figures in his church, died suddenly Monday morning at his home, 709 East Salmon street. He was 77 years old and had lived in Portland 32 years. He was apparently in good health until he was stricken suddenly with abdominal trouble Sunday morning at his home, just as he was about to start for church, at the Woodlawn Methodist, where he was about to fill the pulpit. Funeral services were held Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the First Methodist church. Dr. Joshua Stanfield delivered the eulogy.

Hotels which have fire escapes immediately adjacent to hallways come within the provisions of the hotel building ordinance and cannot be compelled to have inclosed elevator shafts and staircases. This was the decision of Municipal Judge Rossman, in dismissing a complaint brought by Building Inspector Plummer against

the Portland hotel. The Portland hotel owners contended that inasmuch as their fire escapes led directly from the hallways they complied with the provisions of the ordinance, and this view was upheld by Judge Rossman. The court took the position that a "direct connection" is made at the Portland hotel, inasmuch as a person sleeping in one room can reach a fire escape from a hall without being compelled to enter another room. The city council will probably amend the ordinance, it is said.

Another attempt is being made to recall members of the state public service commission. Petitions have been on the streets in Portland for several days, but the signatures are not coming as fast as when Fred H. Williams alone was the target. The recallers are now after the other members of the commission, Fred G. Buchtel and H. H. Corey. When the original movement was launched, following the increase granted in telephone rates, Mr. Williams was the only member who could be attacked. Now, however, both Commissioners Buchtel and Corey have passed the six months mark on their new terms, permitting recall proceedings.

Hy. J. Eilers, charged with larceny by embezzlement, was acquitted by a jury in the circuit court Tuesday and immediately filed suit for \$118,000 damages, alleging malicious prosecution. The defendants are M. C. Koester and W. L. Cornell, witnesses against Eilers; John Taylor Booz, Chicago attorney, and Anna K. Smith, Chas. H. Smith and the Northern Trust company, represented by Booz. As an incident to the Eilers trial, at its conclusion his attorney, Thomas Mannix, was fined \$25 for contempt of court by Judge Stapleton. The act which brought about the fine occurred last week, when Mannix punched one of the state's attorneys, after an exchange of amenities.

With the aim of feeding Portland's needy this winter through the utilization as far as possible of latent food resources now tributary to this city which are undeveloped or permitted to go to waste, the emergency relief committee accomplished permanent organization Tuesday, with Mayor Baker as chairman. Promise of a carload of small apples, such as have been allowed to rot in the past, from Yakima, if arrangements can be made locally to pay the freight, was made to the committee by a fruit grower of that district. A shipment of potatoes was also promised. Freshman interests pledged the use of dehydration plants to be operated at cost for the accumulation of foodstuffs which may be made during the summer for use in the fall and winter.

Portland merchants who are keeping large sums of cash in their safes are taking serious risks at present in the opinion of Police Chief Jenkins and members of the detective force. Recent safe robberies have convinced the officers that an organized gang of safe blowers is operating in the city. Chief Jenkins advises local business men to place their cash in the bank rather than in their strong boxes at present. Police are making every effort to locate the gang or shut them out of the city. The recent safe blowing jobs have been so cleverly executed that detectives have had little evidence to work upon.

Medical relief was furnished 2983 ex-service men and women at the United States public health bureau in the Medical building here during the year ending June 30, according to a report of the bureau completed Tuesday. The cases included everything from furnishing artificial limbs to those wounded in the service to the caring for soldiers who had been gassed, who contracted tuberculosis and who were sent to hospitals within the state and to California sanitariums. Artificial limbs and appliances furnished totaled 125. A modern dental office has been installed, in which 615 patients have been examined and 169 cases treated since the opening of the office on May 1.

If someone doesn't capture those steers running wild around Buckley and Johnson Creek, we have a sneaking suspicion that the neighbors in that locality will soon be eating succulent porterhouses and T-bones.

It isn't always the cost of a thing that bothers us. It is the price we have to pay.

A cackle does not always mean an egg. It often produces scandal.

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