

TOO FREE WITH CLUB

All Portland Indignant at Brutal Police.

NO EXCUSE FOR THEIR ASSAULT

Eyewitnesses Give Further Particulars of Attack on Mr. Albers—He Will Remain Many Days in Hospital.

The brutal attack made by the police upon Henry C. Albers, while Sunday's fire was in progress, continued to be a general topic of conversation on the streets of Portland yesterday.

Yesterday afternoon Chief of Police McLachlan and Commissioner D. Sells conferred with Bernard Albers, president of the Albers & Schneider Company, and asked him if Sergeant Church wore his star when the unfortunate occurrence took place.

"While we dislike the notoriety of this unfortunate affair, we will pursue the matter to the end. In order to fortify my own opinion that Sergeant Church did not wear a star, I have made inquiry on every hand, and I find many reputable citizens who say that he did not wear it, among them being J. P. Sharkey, Henry Donnerberg and J. W. Gorman.

A friend of Albers called upon District Attorney Chamberlain yesterday, but no criminal proceedings were instituted. Mr. Chamberlain stated last evening that should the facts of the case warrant any arrests, the offenders will be brought to justice without fear or favor.

W. H. Wallace and W. J. Corcoran have a store on the side of Front street directly opposite Albers & Schneider's mill. They did not see the beginning of the dispute between Police Sergeant Church and Mr. Albers. They did, however, see the officers clubbing their victim.

"It was a most cruel and uncalculated assault," said W. J. Corcoran, yesterday. "I do not know how many clubs were in the play, but I actually saw two, and they were wielded on the head of Mr. Albers 10 or 12 times at least. They were not love taps either, I tell you. When the officers had laid their victim out, they pitched him brutally into the patrol wagon. I was not close enough to see all the details that occurred, but I saw enough to raise my indignation.

"Officer Church, to my knowledge, wore no star on the outside of his coat, and an investigation certainly is needed into this outrageous affair. If there is a member of the police force who cannot restrain himself from savagery, something ought to be done with him. Yes, Mr. Albers was insensible when he was thrown into the wagon. I started for the jail immediately, when I got there Mr. Albers had not recovered his mind fully, and was talking incoherently. He had three cuts in his head."

"Mr. Albers was beaten into insensibility," said William H. Wallace. "I was not close enough to the fray to see all that went on. I saw the clubs wielded, however, and I can testify that Mr. Albers was most unmercifully handled. So far as I know and have heard, Officer Church did not display a star until after the fight."

Bert Knight, a young railroad man, says that Church wore no star until after the fight, and a medical student, who was close to the scene of battle, says that he thought Church was a private citizen, as he wore no star or badge of authority. Many of the spectators supposed Church was a private citizen, and thought that his trouble with Albers was just a common "scrap." When the officers were throwing Albers into the wagon the crowd yelled: "Arrest them both!" thinking that one fighter was being taken to jail and the other allowed to go scot free.

M. Lavenson, proprietor of a grocery store at 374 Morrison street, was an eyewitness to the assault. "I stood about 100 feet away from the place where the fight occurred," said Mr. Lavenson, last evening, "and I think that the police officers were rough and brutal in their treatment of Mr. Albers. It seems strange that so many stalwart policemen should pitch onto one small man and beat him in such a cruel manner."

In answer to a number of questions as to whether he ordered the arrest of Henry Albers, a member of the Albers & Schneider Company, Sunday, Fire Chief Campbell said yesterday that he had given no such order.

"While we were working at the fire in the Albers & Schneider building," the chief said, "I saw several men engaged in a dispute. They were in our way, and I called to the police, 'Do your duty.' I did not point to any one man, but I did mean that all should be cleared away. They were in the path of the firemen, and on that account I called for the police. I had no time to inquire whether they were interested in the burning property or whether they were simply spectators. I knew the property-owners expected me to keep the fire within the closest possible limits, and I could not allow our department to be obstructed in its work, which it certainly would be by a gathering in front of any of the buildings."

The detachment of police on duty at the fire was not half so vigilant in its efforts to protect property interests as it was vigorous in the wounding of clubs on the heads of property-owners. The small looters, who by most strenuous work saved the greater part of their effects from the fire, received no attention from the police. Fred Anderson, a harness dealer at 245 Front street, managed to carry nearly all his goods to a safe landing on the sidewalk opposite. He kept a constant watch on them, for they represented practically all his capital. But six or seven hoodlums came by and trampled his stuff under foot, and some small articles they carried away. Between 10 and 15 policemen were near by, but none of them offered any aid to Mr. Anderson. One of them did step over and order the crowd away from the line, but at the same time a stream was turned in his direction, and he vanished. From that time on, Mr. Anderson says, the policemen "walked up and down,

dodged the water, talked, laughed and looked pretty good."

"If the facts of the case, as I hear them, are correct," said Judge Charles H. Carey, last evening, "Mr. Albers can sue Sergeant Church and recover damages. He was roughly handled by the police."

About 17 years ago F. S. Inley was arrested and beaten by a police officer in this city, and civil damages amounting to \$600 were obtained.

Clean the Augean Stables. PORTLAND, Feb. 24.—(To the Editor.)—Permit me, through your columns, to add a little more strong language to that already deservedly published, recent yesterday's dastardly and brutal police clubbing of a reputable citizen, because, forsooth, he sought to save his property from devouring flames. Could no other way be found to quiet a naturally excited man than to beat him half to death?

Or do those petty minions of the law conceive that the bestial of a star carries with it despotic powers over those whose life and property they are supposed to protect? Hell's North End acres reek with crime, but no clubs are flashed there; perhaps it is too hazardous.

Strewn woo Reubens to their dens in open daylight and fleece them; but it is only in extremely flagrant cases, where public opinion is feared, that the police intervene. Gamblers skin their victims with marked cards, as was proved in the Demartini case, but the police are conventionally blind. Clubs are not trumps there; they are reserved for nobler (?) purposes. Yet the ring politicians tell us that the city was never so clean as now. Go forbi! Portland should let decent citizens in serried ranks vote on election day as to clean out the Augean stable once for all. I am neither religious crank nor professional reformer, but it does seem to me that the old question, "Quis custodiet ipsos custodes?" should receive a practical and emphatic answer in this city and the answer—to borrow once more from the Latin—should be: FIAT JUSTITIA!

Time to Crush the Machine. PORTLAND, Feb. 24.—(To the Editor.)—The public is justly indignant at the police officers for their brutal assault of one of our leading business men at yesterday's fire. In view of the fact that the District Attorney has repeatedly asked the Commissioners for Sergeant Church's removal, why charge and convict, fire the Chief and Commissioners equally as guilty as Church for sustaining him up to the present time? Whatever action may be taken by the Commissioners in this matter, there are many Republicans who are of the same opinion as the writer—that the best way to teach the party to be more considerate of the business interests of this city and county will be to give them a crushing defeat at the coming election. The people are pretty generally of the opinion that yesterday's affair is the climax of indignities which have been heaped upon the city by the present administration. Let them beware of placing too great a trust in the usual 3000 Republican majority, for the Democrats may place a very commendable ticket in the field. W. D. SCHULTZ.

REGISTER TODAY. With the arrangements which have been made by County Clerk Sweetland for keeping the registration books open until 9 o'clock each night until further notice, there should be no delay or inconvenience to voters. The registration has lagged because of a fear on the part of voters that they would have to wait too long. The total registration yesterday slightly exceeded 300. County Clerk Sweetland says the force can take care of 800. To avoid the rush of the last few days before the primaries, voters should make it a point to register without delay.

REGISTER TODAY. MOCKING-BIRDS WANTED? Colonel Doach Says They Can Be Had in South Carolina. "Does Oregon want mocking-birds?" This is the question asked by Colonel Doach, who has charge of the Oregon exhibit at Charleston. He asks it in a letter to George H. Lamberson, secretary of the State Board of Horticulture. Colonel Doach says he can get any number of birds in South Carolina, their native haunt. It is thought the birds would thrive well in Oregon, owing to the mildness of the climate here. They migrate northward every Summer, and return southward after the brooding season. It is thought that perhaps the birds would remain in Oregon all the year. Colonel Doach writes: "Mocking-birds are plentiful here, and I understand can be bought reasonably in Spring. If a fund could be made up in Oregon for that purpose, I could get them caught and bring them back with me at little expense."

He suggests that a fund be raised by Oregon citizens. As the principal food of the birds is insects, they would probably be valuable to fruit-growers. They readily learn to whistle a tune of considerable length. The barking of a dog, mewing of a cat, cackling of a hen, or creaking of a wheelbarrow is within its imitating powers.

CONSIDER MOHLER'S LETTER Chamber of Commerce Trustees Will Meet Today. The Board of Trustees of the Chamber of Commerce will meet this morning at 11:30 o'clock. The navigation committee will probably make report on Mr. Mohler's letter, which was referred at the last meeting of the trustees. Another important matter of business will be consideration of plans for raising funds where-with to print literature for immigration purposes.

The advertising committee, composed of Adolphe Wolfe, H. C. Wortman and A. H. Devers, held a meeting yesterday. Its report to the trustees will recommend a booklet containing matter borrowed from the New Year's Oregonian. The booklet will be profusely illustrated, and will contain a map of the state. It is estimated that 100,000 copies could be issued for \$4000. It is proposed that the Chamber of Commerce, Board of Trade and Manufacturers' Association unite to raise the necessary funds. The committee thought first of meeting with the advertising committee of the Lewis and Clark Centennial, but the other plan was deemed best for the present.

Vaccinated Folk Escape, H² Dies. ATLANTA, Ga., Feb. 24.—Erwin Collins, 23 years old, and the son of Mayor Collins, of West Point, Ga., one of the state's wealthiest men, is dead of small-pox. Collins, it is said, refused vaccination, and was the only one of his associates to develop the disease. The malady was pronounced smallpox. Death came Sunday, and burial was hastened in the afternoon.

BUSINESS ITEMS. If Baby Is Cutting Teeth. Be sure and use that old and well-tried remedy, Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup, for children teething. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain, cures wind colic and diarrhoea.

WEDDING CARDS ALL THE LATEST STYLES W. G. SMITH & CO. ENGRAVERS Third Floor, Washington Building. Over Litt's

"SPRECKELS" extra fine dry granulated Sugar, 100-lb. sack, \$4.50 at the very low price of.

LION COFFEE—any quantity, at 10c per pound.

Meier & Frank Co. Meier & Frank Co.

BY EXPRESS Magnificent styles in silk embroidered Pongee Silk Waist Pat- \$10.00 terns—one of a kind, pattern

Spring styles in men's "Hawes" Hats have just been received. New "Pompadour" Silks in black and white effects—very latest. New Spring Suits and Jackets arriving every day.

The Shoe Sale

The figures of yesterday's shoe business are before us, and we're proud of them. We have sold a great many pairs since 9 o'clock yesterday morning—the beginning of the sale, and the end is quite a few days away. We will sing the song of saying until every one is supplied and new bargains will come with each passing day.

Ladies' Shoes Men's Shoes Children's Shoes

Ladies' and men's Slippers at greatly reduced prices.

Food Fair

Last week of the Annual Food Fair. Thousands of free sample packages to be distributed free every afternoon. A pleasant hour can be spent at the Food Fair (Third Floor).

Clothing Sale

This great sale of men's and boys' clothing is the most important saving event of the whole year for men and boys. Desirable clothing of every description at a great sacrifice.

MEIER & FRANK COMPANY MEIER & FRANK COMPANY

10,000 Books of every kind at wonderfully low prices.

To Be Closed Out Within the Next Twenty Days.

A twenty thousand dollar stock of Draperies, consisting of Lace Curtains, Portieres, Rugs, Matings and piece goods. Having fully decided to do strictly a wholesale business, we will close out at once our entire stock of Draperies at retail for wholesale prices. We have been busy for the past three days marking down the prices for this sale. There will be no reserve—the entire stock will be at your command. We might quote prices but it would be useless, as you could not appreciate the values without seeing the goods.

Four hundred rugs, all sizes—including the large carpet rugs received today. These go with the other stock. This stock absolutely must and will be sold out by the 15th of March. Retail Merchants and Hotel People will also find a grand opportunity to replenish their stocks.

Very respectfully, PORTLAND DRAPERY & ART CO. Cor. Sixth and Alder Sts.

Attracting Much Attention

Our fine assortment of DRAWING MATERIALS and SURVEYING INSTRUMENTS. Display in Third-Street Window. In connection with instruments we have a large and well-selected line of Scientific Works, such as Field Engineering, Surveying, etc.

The J. K. Gill CORNER THIRD AND ALDER DISTRIBUTERS FOR KEUFFEL & ESSER CO.

OLDS, WORTMAN & KING

BED PILLOWS, silk-floss or pine-needle-fiber filled, \$2.00 grade at \$1.35; \$2.75 grade at \$1.98 pair. \$15.00 WHITE ENAMELED BEDS, three-quarter size, \$11.25 ea. WROUGHT IRON UMBRELLA STANDS, worth \$1.00, 65c ea.

A Big Shoe Deal

Brings us a manufacturer's complete new line of Ladies', Misses', boys' and youths' Shoes, Worth to \$3.00 for \$1.98 Pair.

Ten different Spring styles in the lot for street and dress. Materials, vici kid and box calf, with heavy or light soles, safety, regular or spring heels. Just good, trim, sensible shoes, such as everyone wants but seldom finds at \$1.98 pair. See them.

Hosiery Bargains Muslin Underwear

Come this week for these: Ladies' and Child's fast black cotton hose, good weight, fully reinforced, only, 12 1/2c Child's American Lisle Hose, fine ribbed, fast black, well reinforced. Small sizes, now 12 1/2c pr. Medium sizes, now 15c pr. Large sizes, now 17c pr.

Bargain Foot Notes for Men Who are economically inclined. This week, Men's \$1.50 Street Gloves, pique or outseam finish, 88c pair. Men's \$1.25 Fancy Stiff Bosom Shirts, 69c each. Men's Fancy Striped Sox, 18c pair. Men's Strong Suspenders, worth 35c, at 15c pair.

Lipman, Wolfe & Co.

TODAY

A special purchase by our suit and waist buyer, now in New York, of two hundred and fifty

NEWEST STYLE TUCKED ALBATROSS WAISTS

Real value \$3.75, will be placed on sale today at

\$1.85

Colors are black, rose, creme, pink, blue, red reseda, gray.

SALE BEGINS AT 9 O'CLOCK SHARP.

Wanted at Once 5000 Coyotes

With or without heads. Must be in prime condition. Send for our price list, or better still, give us a trial shipment. Highest price paid.

SHIP ALL FURS TO THE Silverfield Fur Mfg. Co. LARGEST AND LEADING FURRIERS OF THE WEST. 283-285 MORRISON STREET, PORTLAND, OREGON.

HIGHEST CASH PRICE PAID FOR RAW FURS

G. P. RUMMELIN & SONS MANUFACTURING FURRIERS 126 SECOND ST., NEAR WASHINGTON

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