

GHOSTS IN HOUSE

Mysterious Rappings in a Residence at Sellwood.

ATTRIBUTED TO THE SPIRITS

J. M. Merchant's Family Strangely Disturbed at Night—Medium Says Noise Is Due to Spirit of Suicide—Boy May Be a Medium.

Off upon midnight dreary there comes a rapping as of some one soundly thumping upon doors, furniture and walls of the house of J. M. Merchant, a worthy citizen of the suburb of Sellwood. The neighbors say the house is "haunted," and the inmates freely admit that "it's spirits." Furthermore, they have "them" identified as the disembodied remnant of one Emile Peiffer, deceased.

But scoffers think it's "cats or something," or a "practical joke," or "an enemy of the family," or maybe that "long-legged Scotchman who roams there and plays golf." Whatever it be, it's a knocker, a dreadfully industrious knocker. He, she or it is so intangible and evasive, so violent and persistent, that the whole neighborhood is agog with the mystery.

It is a solved mystery to Mrs. Merchant, however. That charming old lady, though greatly frightened at first, soon, with rare presence of mind, bethought her of the right course.

Consults a Medium.

"What do you do when you've got small-pox?" said she. "Why, see a doctor, to be sure. Well, when you've got spirits, consult a spiritist medium."

Suiting practice to the advice, the lady sought a professional spiritist charmer of local renown and laid out for him a dollar to do the work in motion. The medium straightway fell in a trance and pronounced the name of Emile Peiffer, adding further information confirming the Merchant's theory that her little grandson, Kenneth McNeill, was "mediumistic," and therefore "attracted" to the late Mr. Peiffer, and was the innocent sufferer and abettor of the rappings and thumpings.

Ghost of Emile Peiffer.

Public attention was first directed to the matter some weeks ago by the application of J. P. Peiffer to the police station for a Sherlock Holmes to ferret out the knocker. The Peiffers occupy one end of the big yellow-painted house, which was originally known as Merchant's Hotel. Emile Peiffer was the brother and son of this household. He grew up and learned the barber trade in this city. A few years ago he attempted suicide, with no apparent cause. A sojourn at the Good Samaritan Hospital saved his life. He afterwards went to California and worked at his trade, but acted so queerly that he was brought home. It was evident that he was mentally unbalanced, and his family decided to send him to an asylum. He died there, and his relatives have no faith in spiritualism, and roundly denounce the theory that the rappings are due to or from the late Emile. They are, however, quite unable to account for the noises, and it is said, have been nonplussed lately by the occurrence of the rappings on their side of the house, and even in their own front parlor.

Not Frightened but Interested.

If the origin of the sounds is not supernatural and they were designed by some power for the purpose of frightening the family, the effort is a distinct failure. The manifestations seem to afford keen interest and entertainment to the inmates. The Merchants themselves are fairly launched upon a sea of spiritualistic speculation and investigation, while their lodger, P. W. Lingley, the tall Scotch gentleman heretofore referred to, regards it as a delightful subject for psychological research. He is an accountant at the London & San Francisco Bank, hard-headed, muscular and a golf-player of skill. The theory mentioned that he has any knowledge of the cause of the rapping is quite unthinkable. They have occurred in his absence, and he is so enthusiastically bent upon discovering their cause that lately he has been sleeping on a lounge downstairs, where the sounds have been most frequent.

Those who come to scoff remain to wonder. A wanderer, in search of board and lodging commensurate with the size of his income and the dignity of his position, got as far away as Sellwood yesterday. Among other places, he was directed to the Merchant's, whose house a small boy told him, had "spirits into it." Mrs. Merchant courteously showed the man a charming room, then frankly told him what he might expect to hear if he became a lodger.

Mrs. Merchant's Story.

"If you are afraid of such things, you might not like the house," said she, "but intelligent people find great interest in the phenomena, besides it's not bad to have as it was. It's just Emile Peiffer wanting to communicate with his relatives—I know, because I asked him—but they don't believe in such things, so he may give it up and go away after a while."

"I'm not a spiritualist, and when I first heard those sounds that first Saturday night, the 9th of May, I was sure it was burglars. I wouldn't let my husband go out of the bedroom, thinking they believed he come home with money. Through the window we got a neighbor to come in the front way, and with us at the rear, we thought we had the burglars sure, but not a sign of them could we find. That was about 9 o'clock and every night afterward for some time noises came at that hour. I thought it was boys at first, but though we laid every trap, we couldn't catch sight of a boy. We would run to the place where the raps sounded and all would be still, but the second one would be turned the thumpings began there again. After a while, the noises came later, about 3 A. M. Sometimes the raps were fearful, yet nothing seemed to be disturbed—plaster, paint or paper knocked off. Dozens of people came and stayed here overnight and went away just as puzzled as we were.

"The sounds did not come in the walls or on the outside of the house, but often in the room against the bedstead. Sometimes I've heard it beat a rat-a-tat-tat like a finger drumming on the table, sometimes it sounded like a man pounding with a club. Once the sound was vibrant like you sometimes hear against a telegraph pole. I noticed there was some connection between my little 12-year-old grandson and those noises. They were usually near him. When he sat at that table, the rappings sounded on it, though he himself did absolutely nothing to cause them. Often the table itself would move a little."

"Finally, after I'd been to see a medium in Portland I made up my mind that the little boy is a medium. So the next time the raps sounded I kept him there and said aloud:

"If you are a spirit, rap twice for me."

"Two strong raps replied. Then I named over several dead relatives of mine and other people, but got no answer until I mentioned Emile Peiffer. "Once Kenneth and I were sitting on

opposite sides of the table there but away from it, not touching it. I said: "Emile Peiffer, if you are here, will you turn that table around?"

"I was astonished to see the table turn slowly around of itself; then at my request it turned back again just as it was at first. We are satisfied now about the cause of it, but we don't know just what to do about it. Little Kenneth is sensitive about it, he don't want to be called a medium, and if the noises don't come to an end I think we will send him away to his mother for a while, though he loves to stay here."

Suggestive of Spiritualism.

Kenneth McNeill is rather small for his age, a delicate, gentle, sort of boy, very sensitive and intelligent. It is said by those who know him, never in his life given to mischief or trickery. On the face of it, all the facts remind one of the experience of the Fox sisters, the original so-called spiritualists.

There is something suggestive, however, in the statement by one listener that some of the sounds resembled the movement of wires.

MOTHS FROM FUZZY WORMS

Swarms of Insects Frighten Pastors in Tenas.

WALLA WALLA, Wash., June 30.—(Special.)—A cloud of moths so thick as to frighten teams along the road marks the transformation of part of the caterpillar host which first was reported here last Saturday. Mrs. Fred Teal and son, in driving to town today encountered a swarm five miles west of here, and could hardly whip the horses through it.

Several more bodies of the worms are reported one near Dixie and one at Wabburg. Senator O. T. Cornwell says a header box could easily have been filled from a swarm he saw near Dixie.

The worms are small, white, and are apparently all resting. An avalanche of army worms next year is feared as a result of eggs laid now.

Hwaco Prepares for the Fourth.

HWACO, Wash., June 30.—(Special.)—Hwaco is preparing for one of the most elaborate celebrations for the July 3 and 4 ever given since it became a town. More than \$500 has been raised for prizes to be awarded to winners in the various sports. Horse racing will be the principal feature, although foot racing, boat racing on the bay, baseball games and other sports are to be featured. Hon. J. H. Schmitt, U. S. Senator, will be here and deliver the oration during the forenoon of July 4.

Carpenter Gave Up Fine Gold.

SAN FRANCISCO, June 30.—The carpenter of the San Francisco State Mint was taken up a few days ago and treated to a process for removing the gold dust. A bar of gold valued at \$500 was the result. The carpenter was told six months ago that half of the season's pack was put up by July 1, but during recent years the runs have been coming in later, and July is the best month. What the coming month will bring with it is purely speculative, but the catch thus far has been exceptionally small.

Thomas J. Clunie.

SAN FRANCISCO, June 30.—Ex-Congressman Thomas J. Clunie died at his home in this city of acute kidney troubles. He was prominent in financial and business circles. He served on the staff of Governor Markham and owned the town of Rainier, today, in favor of the County of Columbia, provided the county seat is moved to Rainier.

Bid for Columbia County Seat.

RAINIER, Or., June 30.—(Special.)—Dean Blanchard executed a deed to block the town of Rainier, today, in favor of the County of Columbia, provided the county seat is moved to Rainier.

Index Building Is Burned.

EVERETT, Wash., June 30.—(Special.)—Fire has destroyed the building in Everett owned by Collins & Martin. The loss is \$300, partially covered by insurance.

PERSONAL MENTION.

F. B. Waite, the cattleman of Roseburg, is a guest at the Perkins.

Dr. V. I. McGillicuddy and wife, of San Francisco, are at the Imperial.

Dr. J. P. Frenkel, of Portland, is in the city, registered at the Perkins.

S. P. Weir, a merchant of Arlington, came to the city yesterday and is a guest of the Perkins.

R. H. Hinton, who owns large flocks of sheep at Baskoven, is at the Imperial with his family.

Colonel L. N. Peyton, of Spokane, who made a fortune out of the De Roi mine, is at the Portland.

T. S. McGrath, local manager for Girvin & Kyre, returned yesterday from a vacation trip north and east.

J. J. Henry, of Denver, one of the principal officials of the General Electric Company, is at the Portland.

H. Schmitt, of St. Petersburg, and A. C. Richards, of Frankfurt on the Main, registered at the Portland yesterday.

S. J. B. Arnett, of the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, was among the arrivals at the Perkins yesterday.

A. M. Dollar, of San Francisco, one of the owners of the Dollar Steamship Line, is in the city, a guest of the Portland.

Norman Pease, who has been attending Cornell University, arrived home yesterday to spend the summer holidays in this city.

Senator Mitchell will spend the Fourth at Seaside, the guest of Colonel D. M. Dunn. He has been slated by citizens of Seaside to make a Fourth of July oration.

Mr. and Mrs. George W. Hunt, parents of Guy L. Hunt, who is held in Cambridge, Mass., on charge of burglary, left for the East yesterday morning to see what can be done for their son.

Senator Fulton came up from Astoria last night. Tonight he will leave for Joseph, Willamette County, where he will make a public address on July 4. Senator Fulton intends to visit the interior part of the state later in the summer. He will go to Klamath, Lake and Harney Counties.

Mr. and Mrs. Moorfield Storey, of Boston, are at the Portland. Mr. Storey is a lawyer of distinction and a writer on political and legal subjects. He was private secretary to Charles Sumner from 1867 to 1869, was editor of the American Law Review for three years, and was president of the American Bar Association in 1894.

The numerous friends of Barry Eastham, who is attending the Boston School of Technology, will be sorry to learn that he suffered a severe attack of pneumonia last Sunday. His mother, Mrs. F. F. Storey, and his brother, Melville, left for the Union Pacific for Boston yesterday to remain with him until his recovery.

Mr. Andre, who for years has kept a hotel in the town of Bull Run, much patronized by fishermen, has been in a hospital in this city for the past week. He is quite old, and injured himself by overwork. Many sportsmen who have wheeled out to his place Saturday evening and spent the day fishing on Bull Run and have been well cared for by Andre's place will be pleased to learn that he is improving in health.

NEW YORK, June 30.—(Special.)—Northwestern people registered at New York hotels today as follows:

From Portland—E. T. Weathered, at the New Amsterdam; M. Stiefel, at the Hoffman.

From Seattle—A. B. Ernest, at the Navarro; S. Rosenberg, at the Herald Square; J. Carroll, at the Imperial; M. Windmiller, at the Morton.

From Fort Townsend, Wash.—H. L. Tibbels, Jr., at the Imperial.

From Tacoma—J. P. Amy, at the Navarro.

Don't Let Acid Awake Nights.

Horsford's Acid Phosphate taken just before retiring aids the nerves, nourishes the body and induces refreshing sleep. It supplies the needed brain and nerve food.

YOUNG INDIANS GRADUATE

CHEMAMWA TRAINING SCHOOL GIVES FIVE DIPLOMAS.

Hundreds of Visitors Inspect Students at Their Occupations and Hear the Closing Exercises.

SALEM, Or., June 30.—(Special.)—The annual commencement exercises of Chemamwa Indian Training School were held this afternoon and evening. All through the forenoon the different departments of industrial education were open for the inspection of visitors, and several hundred men and women passed through the shops, where boys were working at various occupations. In the blacksmith shop, shoe shop, harness shop, carpenter shop, tailoring shop, and wagon factory the work on display demonstrated that the boys are taught trades that will enable them to earn good livings if they apply themselves to their work with diligence. The same results were shown in the girls' departments, where all kinds of sewing, dressmaking and household work are taught.

The exercises in the afternoon opened with a military drill, when the boys, in full uniform, were put through a dress parade. At 3:30 o'clock the commencement exercises were held in the assembly room, where an appropriate programme was rendered and the following students were graduated:

Emily Downie, Callan; Lottie Lane, Purinton; Lena Wilbur, Clifton; Max L. Wallan, Snohomish; Eugene Goffe, Sticksen.

The diplomas were presented on behalf of the school by Superintendent of Education J. H. Ackerman, who made a brief address, congratulating the pupils upon the successful termination of their school work and encouraging them to continued effort for the higher things of life.

At 6 o'clock the Chemamwa Indian band gave a concert, and at 8 an entertainment was given in the assembly room. The programme consisted of music, recitations, a farce and a play entitled, "A Romance of the Eighteenth Century," presented by nine boys and nine girls. The year's work closed with the singing of "America" by the entire school.

COLD-STORAGE MEN GET FISH.

ASTORIA, Or., June 30.—(Special.)—Two months and a half of the fish season has passed, and with only six weeks left, the outlook for an average pack is not encouraging. In former years a pack of 100,000 fish was common, but this year the pack was put up by July 1, but during recent years the runs have been coming in later, and July is the best month. What the coming month will bring with it is purely speculative, but the catch thus far has been exceptionally small.

When the season opened on April 15 there was quite an amount of fish in the river, but the run soon slackened off, and with the exception of a few small spurts lasting for a day or two at intervals, has continued slack. On July 1 last year the catch was 100,000 fish, but this year it was only 125,000 cases. This year there were six cold storage plants in operation, whereas last year there were eight, and already another is projected for next season, the Sanborn-Cutting Company expects to install one before that time. An estimate made on July 1, 1932, gave the cold storage pack of 100,000 fish, at that time the present time it totals about 800 tons. This is packed in tierces of 500 pounds each, and the number of tierces put up by the individual firms is as follows:

Fishermen's Co-operative Packing Company, 138; Tallant-Grant Packing Company, 56; S. Schmidt & Co., 175; J. Lindenberg, 10; Warren Packing Company, 20; Columbia River Packers' Association, 65; Vandersel Packing Company, 10; M. Both, 55.

IDAHO COURT WILL NOT HURRY.

BOISE, Idaho, June 30.—(Special.)—The Supreme Court today issued an alternative writ of mandamus to State Treasurer Coffin to show cause on October 26 at Lewiston why he should not make a deposit of \$1000 with the Boise City National Bank, as directed by the State Board of Deposits.

This is the case brought to test the constitutionality of the law of the last session, providing for the deposit of public funds in banks offering the best rates of interest on daily balances. The deposits being secured by bond or other security. The Boise Bank was designated as depository and the treasurer instructed to make deposit there for the purpose of bringing the matter up, and it was known the treasurer would not yield Sunday to the law had been passed upon by the courts.

The administration is much disappointed that the court could not hold a special session to hear the case. Already much time has been lost in reaching the case. On a basis of the offer made by the banks the board estimates the funds now available for deposit would yield the state about \$100 a month. One purpose of the new law was to secure this interest to the state, instead of leaving it as a perquisite of the treasurer, the other being to afford greater security for funds.

SMALLPOX AT WALLA WALLA.

WALLA WALLA, Wash., June 30.—Another epidemic of smallpox has broken out, and there are probably 30 cases of the contagion in the city, despite the efforts of health officials to keep it in check. The disease has not been handled at all well in the past, according to the sentiment of citizens at large.

As an example of some of the alleged prevalent customs, two children named Lind last week found pleasure in chasing neighbors' children around the streets, threatening in ignorant glee that they would give them smallpox, the Lind youngsters both having the disease. Neighbors also alleged it is a custom of the Linds indulging the pleasant pastime of pulling smallpox scars off the countenance and pasting them on the fence. Complaint followed, and both children were forcibly hauled on Sunday to the pesthouse by the outraged health officer, who had warned them previously to stay indoors.

DEMING SEEN FOR A MOMENT.

Epplinger Warehouse Superintendent Then Slips Out of Sight.

SAN FRANCISCO, June 30.—Frank Deming, the superintendent of the Epplinger warehouse, who disappeared three weeks ago, after coming to this city and mentioning to friends that he knew all about the alleged crooked work that had been going on, has returned to the city and disappeared again.

Deming returned on the Oregon express Friday evening, according to the police, and was subsequently seen on McAllister street. It was thought today that he was at the residence of his parents on Taylor street, but at that place no information concerning his movements was given.

HOW TO CATCH THE BOYS

BAPTIST CONFERENCE DISCUSSES KNOTTY PROBLEM.

They Don't Attend Sunday School and Mr. Nutley Says Church Should Go After Them.

The Willamette Baptist Association opened its sessions yesterday morning in the Third Baptist Church, Vancouver avenue, Albina. Rev. G. A. Lear, conducted the prayer service, after which enrollment and nomination committees were appointed. At noon luncheon was served in the church. At 2 o'clock Rev. Alexander Blackburn was elected moderator and Rev. C. A. Nutley secretary. Rev. William E. Randall, of the Central Baptist Church, delivered the annual sermon. J. W. Howell submitted a report on publication, after which C. A. Nutley submitted the report of the committee on Sunday schools. This was followed by thorough discussion. Mr. Nutley held it to be the duty of the church to go out after the boys and bring them in, and that it will not do to permit them to do as they please. One speaker said that in Washington there were 150,000 children who did not attend Sunday school, and 40,000 outside the reach of any Sunday school. He contended that it was the duty of the church to go after these children. Rev. Mr. Wherry made a vigorous talk in favor of pushing the Sunday school organization.

Rev. J. T. Hoye said that the church was losing its hold on the boys mainly. The boys, he said, played baseball on Sundays and did pretty much as they pleased. He did not know how to remedy the conditions. Rev. M. M. Bledsoe strongly urged going on the outside after the boys and girls.

The afternoon was occupied with discussion of the work among young people. In the evening the Baptist Young People's Union had charge. Rev. C. A. Nutley conducted praise services. Reports from societies were read. Rev. Myron Cooley followed with an address.

The following is the programme for tomorrow:

Morning—Devotional service, leader, C. C. L. Laws; report of committee on foreign missions, Rev. George A. Lear; address, Rev. A. W. Rider; report of committee on home missions, Rev. M. M. Bledsoe; address, Dr. C. A. Woody; report of committee on state convention, Rev. J. H. Heaven; address, Rev. L. W. Riley.

Afternoon—Devotional meeting, conducted by Rev. L. J. Trumbull; report of committee on education, by Rev. William E. Randall; address by President A. M. Brumback, of McMinnville College; presentation of work of Woman's Home Mission Society; report of Woman's Foreign Mission Society; report on obituaries, by E. M. Hiss; report of committee on resolutions; report of committee on place and preachers for next annual session; miscellaneous business.

Evening—Praise service, conductor, Rev. S. C. Lapham; doctrinal sermon, by Rev. J. H. Heaven.

GETS ONE MORE CARRIER.

Albina Grows So Rapidly That He Is Needed.

One carrier will be given the Albina postal station today to help out in Multnomah addition, north of Stanton street. There have been two carriers for this territory who were expected to make two rounds daily, but owing to the great amount of mail they have had to handle at times they made only one delivery. The two districts will be divided into three. No new territory can be added in the north, although there is a demand for mail delivery there. The three carriers will have all they can attend to inside the present limit.

Some idea of the increase in population may be had from the estimate made of the number of new houses in that portion of Albina covered by the mail-carriers up to last March for one year.

Patrolmen for Astoria Force.

ASTORIA, Or., June 30.—(Special.)—Chairman G. O. Moen, of the Police Commission, today appointed Charles Gammal and Albert Byers as patrolmen to fill vacancies in the police force.

Vancouver Mill Operative Meets Sudden Death.

VANCOUVER, Wash., June 30.—Earl Courten, a mill operative, was cut in halves last night at Hastings mill. He was employed on one of the cross-cut circular saws. He reached over to pull a slab out of the way when his feet slipped. He fell against the big saw, which penetrated his chest and body, practically cutting him in two. His right arm was severed, several arteries in the neck were cut, and the saw cut deeply into the shoulders, leaving but a few inches of flesh untouched. His horror-struck companions stopped the machinery as quickly as possible, but life was extinct in a few moments. He was a native of Lake Mills, Ia.

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Medical Lake Tablets

Delightful when Traveling.

TAKE A BOTTLE OF MEDICAL LAKE TABLETS with you when traveling, and you will always have at hand the materials for a most deliciously refreshing drink. MEDICAL LAKE TABLETS prevent Nausea and instantly relieve Headache, Heartburn, Indigestion and Sour Stomach.

MEDICAL LAKE TABLETS are made from the natural salts obtained by evaporating the water of the famous Medical Lake in Washington. Somewhere deep down in the foundations of the everlasting hills