

ROBERTS ADMITS SMALL SHORTAGE

La Grande Land Office Receiver Makes Discovery and Notifies Government.

MAKES GOOD FROM BANK

Denies Story Books Show \$10,000 Unaccounted For—Has Not "Been Drinking," He Says—Poor System of Bookkeeping.

LA GRANDE, Or., Dec. 6.—(Special.)—Receiver A. A. Roberts, a half-brother of Congressman Ellis, whose accounts have been found to be in a muddled condition and who has been reported to be about \$10,000 short, denied tonight that he was anything like that amount short in his cash. He also gives the lie to the story that he had been spending money rapidly, but that if, after his books have been examined, that he is short, that it will be considerably less than \$10,000 and that he will make good this amount or whatever it is, from his private bank account.

Finds Part of Shortage.

"When I went into this office about five years ago I received for \$108,000. At that time the work was far behind. We kept going ahead cleaning up until June last, when they inaugurated a new system. The new system cleaned things up more rapidly, but ten days ago I found that somewhere I had lost \$1500. I cannot explain where it went, but in going over the books, I accounted for \$600 more rapidly, but ten days ago I found there was a mixup I went to the bank and deposited, out of my own account, over \$1500 to cover what I then thought I was short.

"As soon as I had made that deposit I went to the inspector at Portland and told him that somehow my accounts were confused and that I wanted him to come to my office and inspect the books to ascertain if possible where the trouble was. Not a single relative came to my rescue. He would not come for me to inspect them. I paid the deposit from my own bank account. I can release \$10,000 more tomorrow if necessary. Since making that deposit I have found about \$600 of my supposed shortage, and this leaves me short or unable to account for, about \$900.

Denies He Had Been Drinking.

"The published story is all so far as my being short \$10,000 is concerned. I have been sick for some time and have been a witness in two cases on trial before the Federal Court in Portland, and this, together with my worrying over the mix-up in the books, has rendered me almost helpless in straightening things out. I deny most emphatically that I have been drinking, and I have always lived a moderate life. I want it distinctly understood that the deposit came from my own money and not from the money upon the public that I called the attention of the Government inspector to the middle in my books and did not wait for them to find it out."

Receiver Roberts made known the tangle in his accounts while he was in Portland appearing as a witness for the Government in the trial of James H. Barker, the Baker City banker, and in the trial of Louis Kogalian. It is not believed here that there will be a serious shortage when his books have been experted. Receiver Roberts requested that a special agent be sent to La Grande to help him find out the discrepancies, and it is said that he believed himself to be many thousands of dollars short. Special Agent D. A. Dunning was sent to La Grande, and it is reported that he was able to account for \$2000 that Roberts thought he was short.

Bookkeeping System Poor.

Roberts' troubles, it is said, have grown out of the fact that the Interior Department at Washington has been holding up claims ever since the land-fraud exposures, and that filing fees have accumulated at all of the land offices in the state. Some of these applications have been passed upon and some of them have been rejected, and it seems that Roberts, because of a faulty system of keeping accounts, has neglected to keep track of the money that he has forwarded to the Government, or of that which he returned to the entrymen when their applications were turned down.

FOUR ROADS WANT LAND

Scramble to Get Into Territory Near Priest Rapids.

NORTH YAKIMA, Wash., Dec. 6.—(Special.)—Four railroad companies are making a scramble for the rich territory along the Columbia River between Kennewick and Priest Rapids. Each one is working to get its right of way through first, and there may be considerable litigation before all claims are settled. The four roads are the Priest Rapids road, the North Coast, the Northern & Southern and the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul.

The Northern Pacific Company is throwing every possible obstruction in the way of these new lines, which it considers an encroachment on its territory. This road owns much of this land in this section, which was granted to the Northern Pacific as a bonus by the Government when it constructed its road through here many years ago.

RIVER LOWEST IN 20 YEARS

Willamette at Albany Shallow as During Driest Summer Month.

ALBANY, Or., Dec. 6.—(Special.)—The Willamette River is now lower at Albany than it has been in December for almost a quarter of a century. The river is now less than 1 1/2 feet above low-water mark, and still falling. This is the average stage of the river in the middle of summer. Boatmen here do not remember a time in 20 years when the river has been so low in December. The cause of this condition lies in the fact that there has been practically

no rain in the mountains this fall. The rainfall in the Valley has been unusually light and this has not been sufficient to keep the river above the summer stage. The weather has been so cold that when rain fell in the valleys snow fell in the hills and mountains. During the exceptionally cold weather of the past few days there has been a heavy snowfall in the mountains of this part of the state.

RECEPTION TO NEW PRIEST

Albany Honors Assistant Rector After His Ordination.

ALBANY, Or., Dec. 6.—(Special.)—Father John Moran, assistant to Father Arthur Lane, rector of the local Roman Catholic Church, was tendered a reception tonight by the members of the church at the parochial residence, in honor of his ordination into the priesthood, which occurred at St. Mary's cathedral in Portland Wednesday. He will continue as assistant rector here, and will help Father Lane, who not only has charge of the local church but directs the work in the churches at Lebanon, Brownsville and Jefferson, and also conducts services at Seilo, where he has secured ground for the erection of a church. Father Moran is a native of Ireland. He was educated at the Maynooth Seminary in Ireland and the Kenrick Seminary in St. Louis, and is an accomplished young man.

HERMANN AIDS COQUILLE

Ex-Congressman to Be Sent to Capital to Try for Appropriation.

RANDON, Or., Dec. 5.—(Special.)—Binger Hermann, ex-congressman from this district, will go to Washington, D. C., to intercede with the committee on rivers and harbors in Congress in the interests of the Coquille River bar and harbor. In the hope of getting an appropriation from that body for the bettering of the local harbor, and for dredging the up-river so that ocean boats can go to Coquille and possibly to Myrtle Point.

Demented Man Caught.

Joseph Batosa, 25 years old, an Austrian laborer, entered the house of C. W. W. West, West Park street, last night while in a demented condition and the householder, who was alarmed at the intruder's presence and thought him to be a robber, procured a revolver, arrested him and turned him over to the police. Mr. Welle was sitting in a front room watching when the crazed man rushed into the house. Batosa ran up the stairs two at a time. Mr. Welle secured a loaded revolver and attempted to detain the intruder and ordered him to give himself up. Batosa ran out into the street with Mr. Welle in pursuit. After a race of two blocks Batosa was caught. His captor marched him to the police station, and delivered him to Police Captain Moore. Examination showed that the prisoner was demented.

Oregon City Election Quiet.

OREGON CITY, Or., Dec. 6.—(Special.)—The annual election of municipal officers here will be the quietest in years, there being but one contest, that of Councilman for the long term in the First Ward. William H. Carter, Benton County's member of the House of Representatives in the last two sessions of the Oregon Legislature, exhibiting a lemon 15 inches in circumference, which was grown at his farm in Benton County, near this city.

Property Valuation in Linn.

ALBANY, Or., Dec. 6.—(Special.)—The valuation of property in Linn County towns on the 1908 assessment roll are as follows, as shown by the compilation completed last evening: Albany, \$2,724,755; Harrisburg, \$235,525; Halsey, \$205,475; Seilo, \$98,840; Solaiville, \$20,545; Sweet Home, \$7800.

Boys' Club at Garfield.

GARFIELD, Wash., Dec. 6.—(Special.)—The Rev. C. K. Koster, pastor of M. E. Church, is assisting the boys of his Sunday-school class to organize a "Boys' Social Club." The object of the club is to foster an interest in Sunday-school work, and also to furnish them with a place to meet and amuse themselves at the same time. Interesting home amusements for the boys.

Fairmount Man Drops Dead.

EUGENE, Or., Dec. 6.—(Special.)—Jack McCulloch, a workman resident of Fairmount, dropped dead of heart disease in the office of Dr. Rehman at Wendling last evening. Mr. McCulloch had not been well of late and had gone to the doctor's office, after working hours, for an examination.

Colville Enjoys Ice Skating.

COLVILLE, Wash., Dec. 6.—(Special.)—The recent cold weather has frozen heavy ice in the Colville Valley, resulting in the finest skating known in years, giving a stretch of nearly 10 miles of icy surface on the river bottom.

LINN PIONEER DEAD

Samuel R. Claypool Succumbs to Paralysis.

CAME TO STATE IN 1846

Fought Indians in Early Days, Mined in California, Later Settled Near Lebanon and Became Leader in Community.

ALBANY, Or., Dec. 6.—(Special.)—Samuel R. Claypool, Oregon pioneer of 1846, hero of the Indian Wars, former County Commissioner of Linn County and ex-member of the Oregon Legislature, died at his home in Lebanon, at 10:30 o'clock this morning, at the age of 72 years. Last Monday night he succumbed to a stroke of paralysis and has been practically unconscious since that time. He had been in ill health for the past two years.

Mr. Claypool was a resident of Linn County for more than half a century and in honor received, in work done for the upbuilding of Linn County, in many of his friends and acquaintances, he leaves a record equaled by few men. The name of Claypool is an honored one in the historic annals of Linn County. Born in Indiana, August 28, 1836, he crossed the plains with his parents when 10 years old. Reaching Oregon in 1846, his father took up a donation claim in Clackamas County on a site now marked by the town of Marquam, but did not prove up on this tract and came to Linn County in 1848, and secured a claim in the forks of the Santiam River. The boy worked on this claim until 1854, when he enlisted and served with honor in the Indian Wars of that year, in many of his friends and acquaintances, he leaves a record equaled by few men.

Mr. Claypool has always been active in the public life of Linn County. He was a prominent member of the Democratic party and in 1888 was elected county Commissioner and served four years. In 1892 he was chosen as one of Linn County's Representatives and served in the Legislative session of 1900. He has been a member of the school board in his district his entire life, and has held other minor positions of trust. Mr. Claypool was a veteran for years. Camp of Indian War Veterans for years. He was commander of the Linn County Camp of Indian War Veterans for years. Mrs. John L. Griggs, of Crabtree; James Murray, of Lebanon, and Miss Annie Claypool, of Lebanon.

ANNUAL CONVENTION HELD

Polk County School Officers Make Many Recommendations.

DALLAS, Or., Dec. 6.—(Special.)—The annual convention of the school officers of Polk County was held here yesterday with an attendance of about 80 school officers, representing the boards of every school district in the county. C. L. Hawley retired from the presidency of the association, and T. W. Frank, of Eola, was elected to succeed him. County Superintendent H. C. Seymour was re-elected secretary. L. R. Traver, of Monmouth, and C. L. Starr, secretary of the State Board of Normal Regents, were present, and took an active part in the discussions. Resolutions were passed at yesterday afternoon's meeting and an effort will be made at the coming session of the Legislature to secure the passage of laws embodying the ideas which they contain. They are as follows:

That the method of apportioning school funds be based on the number of teachers employed, each room to receive enough to maintain at least eight months of school a year. That the total amount of the state and county be increased so that each school in the state may be able to run eight months in a year. That each county should have the right to adopt the county unit of administration instead of the district unit, excluding districts of the first class. That each County School Superintendent should have authority to direct more of his time to visiting and supervise more of the schools. That the County Treasurer should be ex-officio treasurer of all districts excepting those of the first class. That a sufficient number of school laws be published, that a copy may be furnished every director, clerk and teacher in the state.

PIONEER DIES AT HILLSBORO.

HILLSBORO, Or., Dec. 6.—(Special.)—Mrs. Verene Siegrist died at her home in this city Friday evening. She was born in Canton, Argau, Switzerland, January 12, 1852, and came to Oregon in 1871. She married Adolf Siegrist March 12, 1873, in St. Louis, Mo., the husband dying in 1888. A brother, John Haller, resides at Seattle.

Mrs. Verene Siegrist.

Mrs. Siegrist has been a member of the Congregational Church since its organization in this city. The following children survive: Mrs. Otilie Shute, wife of Cashier A. C. Shute, of the Shute Bank, Hillsboro; Herman and William, La Grande, Or.; and Adolf and Frederick, Hillsboro.



There may be a question about which one to buy (the long, the short or the medium), but there should be no question in your mind where to buy. Our store is overcoat headquarters this season, twenty-three varieties and not a skidoo in the bunch.

THE LION CLOTHIERS 166-170 Third Street.

port to the School Board on conditions as he finds them in the schools. Another resolution was suggested by Secretary C. C. of the State Board of Education, endorsing the study of elementary agriculture in public schools and suggesting that the State Board of Education and the Oregon Agricultural College be instructed to prepare a textbook on the subject adapted to use in the public schools of Oregon.

APPLE FAIR ALL READY

ROOSEVELT WILL PRESS BUTTON AND OPEN SHOW.

Greatest Collection of Apples Ever Gathered—Buyers Come From All Over World.

SPOKANE, Wash., Dec. 6.—President Roosevelt will press button at 10:30 tomorrow morning, Pacific time, which will give the signal for the formal opening of the National Apple Show to be held in Spokane, December 7 to 12. The exhibits, ranging all the way from a single apple to carload lots, aggregate 20 carloads. Twenty thousand feet of floor space is not sufficient for the exhibits now on the ground, and the officials, representing the National Apple Association, are puzzled tonight to take care of the overflow. The exposition is the greatest and finest collection of apples, apple products, and implements and machinery from California and exhibits are also made by states of the East and Middle West. Japan has installed its exhibit and displays are expected tonight from France and England.

HINDU PLOT FOUND

Subjects in Victoria Aid Rebels in India.

DIRECT PLAN OF ATTACK Rifles of Latest Japanese Models Secured in Large Quantities. Propose Big Uprising When Troops Are Scattered.

VICTORIA, B. C., Dec. 6.—(Special.)—For some time it has been known to the authorities that a revolutionary propaganda against British rule in India is being carried on among the Hindus resident in this province. A short time ago a profound sensation was created by the discovery that at one of the sawmill camps, on the Fraser River, was a well-equipped factory for the manufacture of bombs which were afterwards shipped to India and there used with such deadly effect against the British officials. Since then startling details of a huge plot to overthrow the British rule in India, and place a Sikh ruler on the throne in that country, now settling with sedition, have fallen into the hands of the secret service officers of the British government working on the Pacific Coast. The date of the proposed uprising in India as well as the plan of campaign has fallen into the possession of the authorities.

GEN. SIMON TAKES CHARGE

REBEL LEADER PROCLAIMS HIMSELF EXECUTIVE.

General Fouchard Permitted to Land and Is Made Head of Haytian Army.

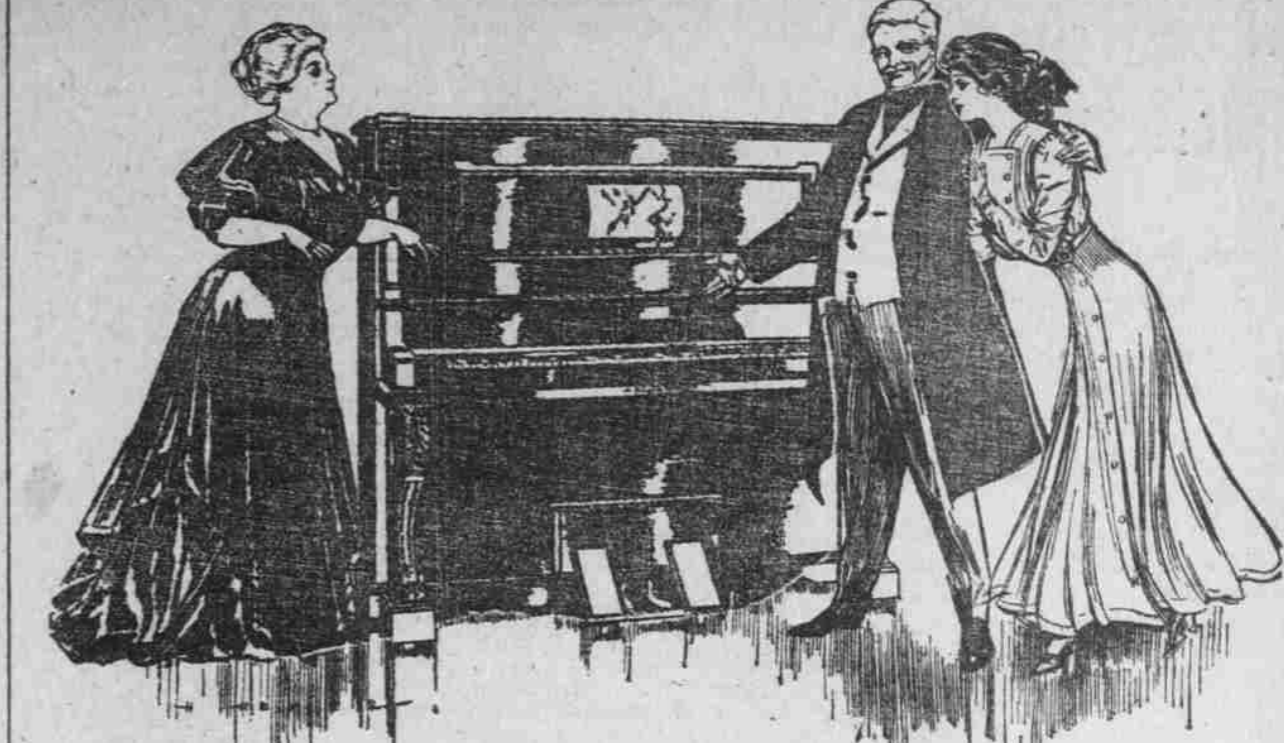
PORT AU PRINCE, Dec. 6.—General Antoine Simon, commander-in-chief of the Revolutionists, who yesterday entered Port au Prince at the head of an army of 8000, today issued a proclamation in which he assumed the title of chief executive and declared that he would organize a provisional government pending the assembling of the Parliament.

OUR OWN MIXTURE.

Here's where we lose the sale of a \$2.50 tobacco. For we frankly admit we give you more actual tobacco value in "Our Own Mixture" at \$1.25 the pound than we can give you in any of the regular \$2.50 tobaccos. SIG. SICHEL & CO. 92 Third St. and two branches.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

F. E. Beach & Co., Pioneer Paint Co., 135 First St. Phone Main 1234, A. 1334. D. Chambers & Son, opticians, 321 Morrison, cor. Sixth, are the best. Dr. Rubenstein, the optician, moved to 129 3d st, opp. Baker Theatre.



Are You Planning a Home Celebration for the Christmas Days?

The approach of Winter holidays, when families are reunited and guests are entertained, furnishes an additional reason for the purchase of a REAL PIANOLA PIANO

When holidays come around the resources of the home are put to the test. If you own a Pianola Piano you have something you can always turn to for recreation and amusement.

You can look at it in either of two ways: First, there is the music itself—a tremendous range of over 15,000 compositions—everything from a dainty Venetian love song by Nevin or a gay, dashing Spanish dance by Moszkowski to the martial polonaises of Chopin and the heroic conceptions of Beethoven.

Second, there is the fascination of producing the music yourself. And perhaps here lies the Pianola's greatest charm. No one can tell you just what it means to be absolutely master of the piano's keyboard; you must experience it for yourself. To be able to summon into existence the most beautiful works in piano literature is the keenest pleasure obtainable from music.

And then any pianist can also play a Pianola Piano in the regular way.

CAUTION The supremacy of the Pianola Piano is recognized throughout the world. Do not make the mistake of supposing that all Piano-Players are very much alike and that it will not matter which one of the different makes you buy.

THE GENUINE PIANOLA PIANO IS SOLD ONLY BY

Eilers Piano House 253 Washington Street

FLOOD THREATENS TOWN Embankments at Pine Bluff Will Give Way, Is Fear.

PINE BLUFF, Ark., Dec. 6.—A continued rainfall and the consequent softening of the already crumbling banks has renewed apprehension that it is not improbable that considerable additional property loss may occur, notwithstanding the rapid recess of the Arkansas River, which at nightfall had fallen a foot.

TROOPS ARE SCATTERED

WASHINGT. Dec. 6.—Joseph H. Painter, aged 39 years, botanist, and his companion, Robert Wallace, aged 18, were drowned today while trying to shoot the rapids at Stubbfield falls in the Potomac River.

TWO DROWN IN POTOMAC

Men in Canoe Attempt to Shoot Stubbfield Rapids.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6.—Joseph H. Painter, aged 39 years, botanist, and his companion, Robert Wallace, aged 18, were drowned today while trying to shoot the rapids at Stubbfield falls in the Potomac River.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Ritzenberg, of the Nortonia, left for the East Saturday.

Werner Breyman, a Salem capitalist, was registered at the Imperial yesterday.

Mr. and Mrs. P. S. Davidson, of Hood River, were at the Portland yesterday.

Mr. Davidson is a prominent business man of that city.

Mr. J. M. Munkers, Representative-elect to the State Legislature, was registered at the Imperial yesterday. Mr. Munkers is one of the three Democrats elected to the House last June from Linn County.

CHICAGO, Dec. 6.—(Special.)—E. C. King, of Portland, is registered at the Auditorium.

Minnesota Convict Taken.

Charles Lawrence, a young man who was yesterday released from serving a 12-day sentence at Kelly Butte as punishment for carrying a concealed weapon, was discovered to be an escaped convict from Minnesota, and will be returned to that state this morning. J. Z. Barnard, the Minnesota state agent for men paroled from a prison reformatory, accompanied by O. C. Page, an officer from the State Reformatory, arrived in this city yesterday with the necessary papers for the young man's custody. Lawrence had been missing for 18 months. He was sentenced to five years for attempted rape, was released on parole just before his sentence had expired and fled. According to the provision of the penal law of Minnesota he is not to have to serve three months longer than his sentence amounted to at the time of his original incarceration.

The Best Cough Cure

A half-ounce of Virgin Oil of Pine, two ounces of Glycerine and a half-pint of Whisky, mixed, will cure any cough that will not yield to any other remedy. Take one spoonful every four hours. Ask your druggist for the genuine Leach's Virgin Oil of Pine compound, pure, prepared and guaranteed by the Leach Chemical Co., Cincinnati.

Diseases of Men

DR. W.A. WISE We can supply you with bridges without plates that will be perfectly firm, look as well as the natural teeth and chew your food perfectly. THE DR. WISE SYSTEM, perfected during 21 years' active practice in Portland, guarantees you unrivaled results in all branches of the dental profession. Plates that fit perfectly and that won't come loose, absolutely painless extractions, scientific porcelain and ivory work performed by specialists in standing in the profession. Your work done in a day!