GAS FLAMES LICK UP SCORE OF MEN

Two Monster Tanks Explode at Hamburg, Entailing Heavy Loss.

FORTY MEN ARE INJURED

Heat So Intense Firemen Are Forced to Retire and Bodies of Workmen Who Perished, It Is Believed, Will Never Be Found.

HAMBURG, Dec. 7.—The explosion of two gas tanks in the so-called "Kleines Grasbrook," on the Elbe front this afternoon, was followed by an extensive fire and the loss of many lives.

The explosion was due to a leak in a new gasometer. Escaping gas entered the retort house, where it came in contact with the fires, causing a terrible explosion. A large number of workmen were engaged in rebuilding and enlarging the plant.

25 Workmen Disappear.

Twenty-five men who were working near the gasometer disappeared in a mass of flames which shot up to a great height. Firemen appeared quickly, but were unable to approach in large force, because of the isolated situation of the establishment.

Late tonight ten men are reported dead and 17 missing. It is almost certain that all these are dead. Forty men were dangerously injured, several perhaps fatally.

Heat Drives Back Firemen.

The fire spread rapidly and threatened the old gasometer containing 50,000 cubic metres. So intense was the heat and so dangerous their position that the firemen were compelled to withdraw. A terrific explosion soon occurred, and the tower became a mass of flames, which leaped hundreds of feet into the air, sending fragments of glowing coke far over the city and harbor.

After strenuous efforts, the fire was put under control and rescue work began. Little hope of finding the bodies of the missing is held out, as they undoubtedly have been incinerated.

Gasometer Largest in World.

The new gasometer which exploded was the largest in the world, having a capacity of 200,000 cubic metres. The city appropriated 14,000,000 marks ($3,500,000) for its construction.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS DINE

Washington Chapter Holds Reunion in East Side Temple.

The annual reunion and banquet of Washington Chapter of Royal Arch Masons was held in Masonic Temple, East Eighth and East Burnside streets, last evening. Tables were set for over 200 guests in the main lodgeroom.

Professor D. A. Grout, excellent high priest of Washington Chapter, presided as toastmaster. His report of the year's work showed the chapter to be in a most satisfactory condition. The total membership of the chapter is now 371.

The principal addresses of the evening were delivered by Judge M. C. George and Professor J. H. Ackerman. Judge George spoke on "Masonic Ashlar." "What Do We Seek Here Tonight?" was the text of Professor Ackerman's talk. J. H. Richmond, a past high priest of Washington Chapter, spoke on the duty of Masons in their Masonic affiliations. E. G. Jones' theme was "Ideals of Masonry."

A feature of the evening was the famous "Shanghai" song of Judge S. Bullock. Judge Bullock enjoys the distinction of having been the first high priest of Washington Chapter.

PROBE OF CUSTOMS ASKED

Three House Resolutions Seek Light on Sugar Trust Frauds.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—Three resolutions bearing upon investigation of the Customs Service, introduced in the House yesterday were referred to the committee on rules. Representative Campbell of Kansas, author of one resolution, called at the Department of Justice today to ascertain the attitude of the department towards his measure. Attorney-General Wickersham emphasized to him the desire of the President that Congress should keep hands off at present.

Probe the campaign contributions of the so-called sugar trust and show who gave and how much, is, in effect, the direction of a bill introduced today by Representative Gillespie of Texas. It calls for a Congressional investigation of the sugar frauds.

JUSTICE OUTFOOTS MOB

Negro Convicted and Sentenced as Would-be Lynchers Wait.

WILLIAMSTOWN, Ky., Dec. 7.—Within a few hours Earl Thompson, a negro, accused of criminal assault, was indicted, tried and sentenced to death here today. The extraordinary rapidity with which the authorities acted probably averted a lynching, as a mob of several hundred had gathered.

Thompson was accused of attacking Mrs. Maggie Robert, of Dry Ridge, near here, three weeks ago. He had been taken to Lexington for safe keeping, but was brought back today to appear in Court.

A mob attempted to take the negro from Sheriff Carter and a force of deputies. The mob was foiled, but remained around the jail until Thompson was convicted.

NORTHWEST PLUMS GIVEN

President Appoints Many Men in Oregon, Washington and Idaho.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Dec. 7.—The President today sent to the Senate the following nominations, among them several recess appointments:

Census Supervisors:

Oregon—Robert J. Hendricks, First District; Seneca C. Beach, Second District.

Washington—Robert W. Hill, First District; Gay S. Kelly, Second District; Arthur M. Sterch, Third District.

Idaho—Joseph Perrault, Jr.

Land Officers—Charles B. Merrick, Register, Portland; B. F. Jones, Register, Roseburg; George W. Riddell, Receiver, Roseburg; Presley F. Horne, Register, Hailey, Idaho.

Postmasters:

Oregon—W. B. Haines, Forest Grove.

Washington—Jesse T. Stewart, Mabton, Jacob Blickenderfer, Farmington.

Idaho—H. B. Curtiss, Blackfoot; John E. Jones, Kellogg and Leona Wyman, Mullan.

Charles B. Merrick, of this city, named for Register of the Portland Land Office, is secretary of the Retail Grocers' Association and the Beaver State Insurance Company, a mutual insurance organization formed in the interest of the grocers of the state. Mr. Merrick served in Cuba during the Spanish-American War. He is a graduated lawyer, and has been admitted to the bar in this state. The appointment comes to Mr. Merrick without solicitation, although he is numbered among Senator Bourne's supporters.

B. F. Jones, who has been appointed Register of the Roseburg Land Office, resides at Independence, where he is engaged in the practice of law. He has been a member of the State Legislature at three sessions, and at the 1907 session voted for Bourne for Senator. George W. Riddle, who has been selected for Receiver of the Roseburg office, is a well-known resident of Southern Oregon. He also is an ex-member of the Oregon Legislature.

Fred D. Fisher, who has been reappointed Consul at Newchwang, China, is a resident of this city, and has relatives in Linn County.

SCHUMANS WIN MOTHER

PORTLAND BOY WILL NOT QUIT WOMAN HE LOVES.

Dramatic Scene in Bay City When Mrs. Martha Schuman Finds Girl Is All Right.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 7.—(Special.)—Convinced that she had mistaken greed of gold for love on the part of the woman loved by her son, induced Mrs. Martha Schuman, of Portland, to set aside her opposition and this morning she welcomed the girl she had caused to be arrested for eloping with her boy.

The reconciliation took place in the City Prison amid a horde of policemen, and, hardened as are these men who come in contact continually with the seamy side of life, there was hardly a dry eye in the dingy corridor.

The girl, Mrs. Pearl Hall, although a matron, is hardly out of her teens. With Otto Schuman, heir of the Schuman fortune, she eloped on the steamer Rose City from Portland.

Mrs. Schuman learned of the elopement in time to allow her to arrive in San Francisco ahead of the boat and when the gangplank was thrown down yesterday she was the first to mount it.

With a scream she clasped her son about the neck and insisted that he should not leave her again; that he should return to Portland and forget "that woman."

Young Schuman refused, whereupon the mother grew hysterical and she told her story to a policeman and secured the arrest of the pair. They were placed in detinue at the City Prison and held over night.

This morning, before she had seen her son or his sweetheart, Mrs. Schuman was still bent upon having the police assist her in securing the return of her son to Portland, but it was of no avail. The son came from the prison first and Mrs. Schuman again clasped him to her as he entered the main corridor of the building.

A few minutes later the girl, with hesitating and affrighted steps, made her appearance ,and the two women looked at each other for a moment.

The glance of affection which Mrs. Hall gave Schuman at this juncture seemed to turn the scale of the mother's doubting mind, for she put her arms around the girl's neck and asked that they be friends. A kiss was exchanged and the three walked out of the building arm-in-arm.

FATHER TO DISINHERIT SON

Otto Schuman Declares He Will Deny Home to Eloping Son.

Schumann is 24 years old, and the only son of Otto Schuman, a well-known resident of Portland. Mrs. Pearl Hall, whose maiden name was Pearl Webber, is of Schuman's age, and at different intervals resided with her parents on First street, this city.

The elder Schuman ,when apprised of the marriage of his son at an early hour this morning, poured forth his wrath upon his son's actions and marriage with Mrs. Hall.

"I will disinherit my son—he shall never again enter my house," exclaimed the irate father. Tears filled his eyes as he recounted the sacrifices he and the lad's mother had made.

Otto Schuman, Jr., was a machinist in the O. R. & N. shops. Last Thursday he drew all his wages, amounting to $125. That evening he left home on the pretense of visiting a friend. When he did not return home for two days the solicitous parents instituted an inquiry as to his whereabouts. The persistent companionship of the youth with the Hall woman, whom the father dramatically denounced, caused the parents to conclude that they had eloped. Investigation revealed that the couple had left the city on a train for Astoria, where they boarded the boat for San Francisco.

"It's all a trick to get what money I have, but they'll never get it," cried the unrelenting father, who is confined to his home with a broken ankle, sustained when he slipped from the curb Friday afternoon.

Mrs. Miller Appears in Concert

MRS. LULU DAHL MILLER, contralto, assisted by Mrs. Rose Coursen Reed's Treble Clef Club, John Ross Fargo, tenor, and Edgar E. Coursen, piano accompanist, gave a most pleasing concert last night at the White Temple, and was cordially received by an audience that crowded the auditorium downstairs. The concert was given at the request of Dr. J. Whitcomb Brougher and other officials of the White Temple to mark the return home of Mrs. Miller, contralto soloist at the church, from two years' extended vocal study in the East.

The cordial welcome given Mrs. Miller whenever she appeared last night evidenced her more than ordinary popularity as a singer, and she took part in a long and finely selected programme with credit to herself. What she sang was artistically suited to her attractive personality, and she won two encores, one of these being Nevins' "O That We Two Were Maying." She received nearly one dozen large floral bouquets.

Mr. Fargo sang five songs and sang them well, two of them, "The Day Is Gone" and "Flower Rain," having been sung here by Madame Jomelli. The Treble Clef Club's numbers, sung under the direction of Mrs. Reed, were pleasingly rendered.

The peculiar properties of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy have been thoroughly tested during epidemics of influenza, and when it was taken in time we have not heard of a single case of pneumonia. Sold by all dealers.

ASSEMBLIES TO BE NAMED BY PEOPLE

Portland Republican Club Indorses Vote by Precincts as Best Plan.

M'CAMANT SCORES U'REN

Measure Providing Proportional Representation in Legislature Unfair, Says Speaker—Resolutions Are Adopted.

Election of delegates to county and state assemblies by popular vote of Republicans by precincts was indorsed through the adoption of resolutions by the Portland Republican club at a regular meeting last night. The resolutions are amendatory and supplementary to similar resolutions acted upon favorably at another meeting of the same organization early in November. As revised, the resolutions have the sanction of prominent assembly advocates of Portland. The resolutions follow:

Whereas, The direct primary law, enacted by the voters of this state and indorsed by this club, provides among other statements, as follows: "The method of naming candidates for elective public offices by political parties and voluntary political organizations is the best plan yet found for placing before the people the names of qualified and worthy citizens from whom the electors may choose the officers of our government;" and also provides: That the party "central committees shall have the power to make rules and regulations for the government of their respective political parties."

Therefore, in furtherance of the objects of the direct primary nominating election law, and especially the provisions above quoted, and the resolution indorsing the holding of assemblies adopted by this club November 2 last; be it further

Resolved, That the Republican club of Portland, Or., in regular meeting assembled: That the executive board of the club is hereby directed to communicate the resolution adopted by this club November 2, 1909, and this resolution, to each of the members of the Republican state, Congressional and county central committees, for this state, district and county, with the recommendation that an assembly be called and provisions be made for the holding of an assembly in each of their respective jurisdictions, for the purpose of setting forth party platforms, resolutions, and recommending to the favorable consideration of the voters of the party the names of the best qualified and worthy citizens for the party nominations at the general primary election to be held next September.

That said assemblies be called to meet at Portland, Or., at least 45 days preceding the date of said primary. That the apportionment of delegates to said assemblies be fixed as one delegate for each 50 votes cast for William H. Taft, at the last Presidential election—thereby making the said assemblies large and popular. That no proxies be allowed in said assemblies, but that the delegates in attendance from each county or district cast the vote for any delegates that may be absent from their respective county or district.

That the delegates to said assemblies be chosen by popular vote of all Republican voters, at general meetings to be held in each precinct or district, under the direction of the Republican county central committee ,so as to secure the selection of our best representative Republicans as delegates, without reference to the candidacy of any particular aspirant for nomination.

U'Ren Plan Scored.

Preceding the adoption of the foregoing resolutions, Wallace McCamant, responding to an invitation from the club, delivered an address in which he vigorously assailed as un-American and contrary to all conception of representative government the measure providing for proportional representation, which, the speaker said, "W. S. U'Ren, the Clackamas County law-giver," will propose at the next general election. Practically the same bill, said Mr. McCamant, was presented in the last session of the Legislature and rejected by a decisive vote.

"To say the least, this measure is difficult to understand," said Mr. McCamant. "Mr. U'Ren is probably the only citizen in Oregon who does understand what the proposed measure means and if it should go on the ballot not one voter in 500 would know what he was voting on.

Citing a specific instance, which was included in the illustration submitted in connection with the U'Ren bill when it was presented to the last Legislature, Mr. McCamant called attention to Wasco and Hood River counties. He quoted figures showing that those two counties, prior to the time they were divided and created into two separate counties, had a total Republican vote of 2217, while the Prohibitionists cast a vote of only 137.

American Principles Violated.

"Yet, under the scheme of U'Ren, the Republicans would be entitled to only one Representative, while the Prohibitionists, with a majority of 2000 against them, would also be awarded one Representative. The effect of the proposed law in its operation would be to deprive the people of that section of the state of representation in the Legislature. Such a plan certainly is out of accord with American principles."

The speaker also referred to the fact that under the same plan Linn County, with 2291 Republican voters, would be entitled to only one Republican State Representative, while the Socialists, who cast 391 votes in the same county, would be given the other Representative. In Multnomah County it was illustrated that the same arrangement would distribute the 13 Representatives as follows: Republicans, 16,848 votes, nine Representatives; Democrats, 6286 votes, three Representatives; Socialists, 1606 votes, one Representative. In other words, while the Republicans of this county cast more votes than all other parties combined, the majority party would be entitled to only two-thirds of the representation in the House of Representatives from this county.

Party Destruction Aimed.

"U'Ren is not in good faith a Republican; he is in the party, as his acts have demonstrated, simply to destroy it," concluded Mr. McCamant. "No such man has the right to go before the registration officer and take oath that he is a Republican, and then authorize a Statement candidate for the Legislature to make the statement publicly that it makes no difference whether a Democrat or a Republican shall be elected to the United States Senate. Such a statement was made at a meeting in South Portland just before the primaries less than two years ago by Mr. McDonald, candidate on the Statement ticket for Representative from his county. In making the statement, Mr. McDonald confessed that he was a close friend of U'Ren, and was authorized to make the statement. Such a man as U'Ren is not to be trusted as the guide of public opinion in any respect."

DATA ON IRRIGATION ASKED

Heyburn Presses for Inclusion of Information in Census.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Dec. 7.—Senator Heyburn has introduced a bill authorizing the collection of full and complete data with reference to irrigation development in the West, as a part of the 13th census, to be taken next year. The bill authorizing the taking of the next census failed to call for data on irrigation, and it has been the purpose of the Census Bureau to eliminate this feature, which was so prominent in the 12th census. In view of the fact that great development of irrigation has accurred during the past decade, Senator Heyburn insists that irrigation data is more valuable now than ever before, and he hopes to secure the passage of his bill early in the present session.

The bill provides that the Director of the Census shall collect and publish all available information relating to the quantity of land irrigated in the arid region of the United States, and in each state and county in that section under Federal or state laws; the approximate value of land per acre before irrigation and since water has been applied; the amount, character and value of irrigated crops produced; the location of the various projects and method of construction, with facts as to their physical condition; approximate cost per acre of putting water on the land, and such other information as would be of interest and value pertaining to the reclamation of arid lands in the West.

GLAVIS GIVEN HARD RAP

MILLIONAIRE MINE OWNER ON STAND AT SPOKANE.

John A. Finch Declares He Recalls Being Told Glavis Stole Book. Spent $2500 on Claim.

SPOKANE, Dec. 7.—The name of Special Agent Glavis was brought out sharply in the Cunningham coal claim investigation today during the testimony of John A. Finch, a Spokane millionaire mineowner. Speaking of the noted Cunningham journal, Mr. Finch stated:

"I never heard of such a journal and never saw it. I did hear about an incident connected with a certain land agent named Glavis, who is said to have stolen the journal and taken it away with him. As to Mr. Cunningham receiving one-eighth interest in my claim I know nothing about it.

"Do you know that Mr. Glavis stole this journal?"

"I do not. I simply stated that I heard he had."

Mr. Finch stated that Mr. Cunningham had advised him to take up the coal claim in Alaska and had located it for him. He spent about $2500 on it. He denied knowledge of a plan to build a railroad to the coal mines.

W. W. Baker, of Walla Walla, and Francis Jenkins, of Moscow, Idaho, claimants to coal land, both denied that they had ever entered into any combination or agreement involving their titles, and related the steps taken by them to procure their titles.

Baker showed by his testimony that he had been more careful of his steps in the case than most of his associates, examining all statements and affidavits carefully before signing them.

Jenkins also exercised some care in the matter, and neither Baker nor Jenkins signed the so-called Glavis affidavits sent them by Glavis.

Both testified that they consented to the Guggenheim negotiations, but not to the proposed Guggenheim contract.

LIKE SHEEP AMONG GOATS

McCredie Has to Sit on Democratic Side of House.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Dec. 7.—Representative McCredie, though a staunch Republican, will be forced to sit among the Democrats for the remainder of this Congress. He was today assigned a seat in the rear center of the Democratic side of the House, there being no vacancies on the Republican side.

Poindexter, however, is also among the Democrats, having been unlucky in drawing last Spring.

AMUSEMENTS

WHAT PRESS AGENTS SAY

"Soul Kiss" Twice Today at Bungalow.

There will be two performances at the Bungalow Theater, Twelfth and Morrison streets, today, a special matinee at 2:15 and the last time tonight at 8:15. The attraction will be the sensational musical play success, "The Soul Kiss." This will afford your last opportunity of seeing and hearing one of the season's most delightful entertainments.

Potter-Hatrwell Trio at Orpheum.

The Potter-Hartwell Trio, at the Orpheum, really discloses something new in acrobatics. There are two men and a woman, the latter a very sprightly soubrette. She is graceful, agile and attractive, and wears in a very becoming manner a great number of fine costumes. Matinee every day at the Orpheum.

Baker Bargain Matinee Today.

Nothing can keep the crowds from going to the Baker this week to see Geo. M. Cohan's "Forty-Five Minutes from Broadway." The popular bargain matinee will be given today and the attraction runs all this week. Charley Brown, who has been crowned with laurels from one end of the United States to the other in the unique part of "Kid Burns," again heads the excellent cast.

Pantages Offers International Star.

Fred Fischer, the composer of more popular songs of the day than any other man in the world, is appearing at Pantages this week, with the well-known Italian impersonator, Maurice Burkhart, in an original and most entertaining sketch, in which they are heard in a number of Mr. Fischer's very latest successes. Mr. Fischer is the composer of many song hits.

Fancy Shot With Rifle.

Miss Myrtle Byrnes is a fancy shot with a rifle and she can shoot equally well with a revolver held in right or left hand. Everything she aims at is as good as hit already. Miss Byrnes empties the magazine of her rifle and every shot reaches its mark. Shooting balls off the head of her assistant, or shooting out lighted matches is a simple matter for her.

"Tempest and Sunshine" at Lyric.

Tonight at the Lyric the ever popular Athon Stock company, will be seen in its great success, the dramatization of Mary J. Holmes novel, "Tempest and Sunshine," and for a splendid performance and interesting play, this piece soars far above any of its previous efforts. The entire company is excellently cast and the play is superbably mounted.

Star Theater's New Show.

The Star Theater changes its programme today in every particular. The pictures are all of American make and wonderfully keen and clever. "Thro' the Breakers," a biograph, teaches the lesson of the danger to which people of fashion subject themselves when they allow social pleasures to rule their lives. "Our Soldier Boys," shows the life duties, education and sports of the brave boys of the National Army.

Freight Moving in Tacoma.

TACOMA, Dec. 7.—Northern Pacific Railroad officials say they have 14 engines at work during the day and four at night. They say they are moving everything there is to be moved. Both grain and coal are received and handled without difficulty. The freight trains for the east and the south left last night as usual. From the switchmen's side no new developments are reported.

ANTI-SALOONISTS FLAYED BY RUTH

Washington State Senator Tells Why He Opposes Prohibition.

LECTURING FOR LICENSE

"Movement Bound to Fail Because American Citizen Will Refuse to Allow Anyone to Tell Him What He Is to Eat, Drink, Wear."

After delivering a strong speech in favor of license for Starbuck, as far as the liquor question is concerned, A. S. Ruth, of Thurston County, president of the last Washington State Senate, arrived in Portland yesterday.

Senator Ruth has been lecturing throughout Eastern Washington against the proposed county unit system of local option. He was one of the bitterest opponents of the prohibition movement which was started in the last Washington Legislature and it was largely through his efforts that the county unit system of local option was downed in the Legislature and the present precinct unit option law passed.

Ruth Busy Speechmaking.

"I have been making a series of speeches in Eastern Washington against prohibition," said Mr. Ruth. "Of course the Anti-Saloon League claims just now that it is not preparing to force statewide prohibition on Washington, but that it merely wants county local option. I hold, however, that this organization is always working behind masked batteries and that statewide prohibition is what it is really after and that is what I am fighting.

"Its movement has always been progressive. There are many people who would not stand for county local option who favor precinct local option. Then there are many who would not favor state prohibition who would vote for county local option. Here in Oregon where you have county local option they are demanding state prohibition. In Washington where they have precinct local option it is the county unit they want. They are at all times asking for something more with state prohibition as their ultimate goal and for that reason I feel that in speaking against local option of any kind I am speaking against prohibition.

"Prohibition is a failure everywhere. It is bound to be. It is so theoretically and practically. The prohibition movement is bound to fail because the average American citizen will refuse to allow anyone to tell him what he is to eat, drink or wear. Laws regulating the personal life, liberty and religion, etc., of American citizens have always failed.

New England States Repeal Law.

"I was born and raised in Maine. I visit there frequently and was there only last year and so am acquainted with the workings of the prohibition laws in that state and in New England. In the first place all six of the New England States have had prohibition and five of these six states have repealed their laws. My theory is that if the people of these five New England States had found prohibition good for the morality of the community and of any aid to temperance they would have kept it. Maine kept it because it is a part of the constitution and to get it out it must be brought before the people and must win out against the efforts of three classes of people—the prohibitionists, the bootleggers or blind piggers, and the shyster lawyers.

"But even there conditions are changing. The Republican party stands for prohibition, or rather against resubmission of the constitutional amendment concerning prohibition to the people. Last year President Taft carried Maine by 50,000 majority but the Democratic Governor, running on a resubmission platform, reduced that majority to 7000. Maine has had prohibition there for 57 years and the sober intelligent people there are disgusted with it.

"One of the infamous parts of prohibition is the kitchen saloon which it brings into life. These are run by poor people selling to a small clientage a poor quality of whisky and there the mothers train their children to stand out in front and watch for the officers. I have never been in a town of the same size where I saw as much drunkenness and abuse of liquor as I did in Pullman last Fall, and that was a dry town. The town is full of bootlegging and that is a bad thing for any community.

"Personally I cannot believe that the State of Washington will pass the county unit option law at the next Legislature, although it is the admitted intention of the Washington Anti-Saloon League to attempt to do so. The tendency of the state is not toward prohibition. The city of Walla Walla, where there will be an election December 20 and where the saloon question is paramount, I believe will go wet. All the business men, the representatives of the big interests and the heavy taxpayers are in favor of an open town and are fighting prohibition."

Perkins Grill Ablaze.

Fire that had smouldered for several hours in the walls beneath the kitchen of the Perkins Grill burst forth and threatened to cause considerable damage at 10:30 o'clock last night. The fire department extinguished the flames promptly. It is believed sparks ignited inflammable material in the walls. The damage is $500, fully covered by insurance.

Boy Mayor Buys Exchange Seat.

NEW YORK, Dec. 7.—Sherburn M. Becker, widely known throughout the country as the boy Mayor of Milwaukee, has purchased a seat on the New York Stock Exchange for $36,000, and will in a short time come to this city to make his home.

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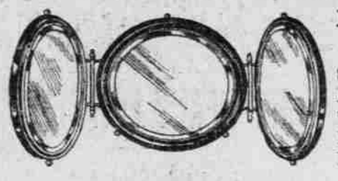

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