

JURY CLEARS AGED SAUL C. CUSTIS

Veteran Acquitted of Murder Charge After Six and Half Hours' Deliberation.

EIGHT BALLOTS ARE TAKEN

Last Juror Won Over on Eighth Ballot, Though on First Three Are for Conviction—Record Time Is Made.

Samuel C. Custis was acquitted at 4:30 P. yesterday of the murder of Albert Wilson in the Central rooming house, Second and Burnside streets, November 24. The jury was out six and a half hours, retiring at 10 o'clock yesterday morning for deliberation. The trial was held in Judge Cleland's department of the Circuit Court, but little more than a day being consumed for the entire trial, which is record time in a murder case.

WATSON MUST COME FOR BAIL

Money to Be Forfeited Unless Defendant Appears in Person.

Frank Watson may have his \$100 cash bail—if he will come after it. That was the decision of Presiding Circuit Judge Bronaugh yesterday morning when Attorney H. C. King argued his motion for the release of the bail. The decision was the result of a conference between Judge Bronaugh and Attorney King, who is likely that Watson will appear personally to demand the coin.

LINTON FARE DECISION TODAY

Circuit Judge Morrow Will Close Case by Decree.

Circuit Judge Morrow will decide the Linton fare case this morning. Suit against the United Railway Company was commenced by residents of Linton last August to compel the corporation to reduce its fare between Portland and Linton from 15 cents to 5 cents.

MORRIS PLEADS NOT GUILTY

Moore to Be Tried First if All Demand Separation.

W. Cooper Morris, one of the quietest indicted for wrecking the Oregon Trust & Savings Bank, pleaded not guilty before Presiding Judge Bronaugh in the Circuit Court yesterday morning. He said he arrived in Astoria to enter his plea on Thursday afternoon.

HAND CRUSHED, LABORER SUES

Damages Asked for Inquiry Caused When Plank Slipped.

Joseph Dietsch is suing the Portland Railway Light & Power Company before a jury in Judge Cleland's department of the Circuit Court for \$100 damages. He was screening gravel April 27, on Clinton street near Twenty-first, when a gravel wagon belonging to Stevens Bros. for whom he was working, became wedged into the grooved rails of the streetcar track.

DAUGHTER CONVICTS FATHER

Restaurant Proprietor Fined \$100; Appeals and Is Fined \$150.

Henry Hoffman, proprietor of a rooming-house and restaurant on East Clay street, has been fined \$100 by Judge Bronaugh in the Circuit Court, for selling liquor without a license.

Man Buried Under Sacks Loses.

Although buried under a tier of sacks filled with flour when they fell upon him last January, Orville O. Cose can recover no damages from the Pacific Coast

Elevator Company. A verdict for the defendant was returned in Judge Morrow's department of the Circuit Court yesterday afternoon. The jury was out four hours. Cose sued for \$2,500. The accident resulted in a compound fracture of his ankle.

FREE OF FEDERAL CHARGE

Frank Kreitzer Held, However, as Witness Against Another.

Frank Kreitzer, of Marcola, was exonerated yesterday before United States Commissioner Cannon of the charge of opening mail addressed to another at that postoffice. He will be held as a witness against John Parr, who was bound over to the grand jury.

STATION BURGLAR CONVICTED

Frank Blake to Be Prosecuted Again When Set Free.

Frank J. Blake was yesterday convicted in the United States Court of the burglary of the Postoffice at Irving. The penalty which may be inflicted by the court is a sentence of from one to ten years in prison.

Blake, who admitted that his correct name was Mills and that he came from a good Pennsylvania family, was captured by Town Marshal Spotsgrass while hiding a boxcar at Cottage Grove. He made a desperate resistance and attempted to use a large Army revolver which stuck in his holster, allowing the officer to gain the advantage in the contest.

Bankrupt's Assets Team and Hack

Frank Dinges, engaged in the livery business at Junction City for the past year, yesterday filed a petition in bankruptcy with the Federal Court. His states poor notes caused fortune's loss.

Amusements

What the Press Agents Say.

Ezra Kendall—Matinee and Night. There will be two performances at the Bungalow Theater, Twelfth and Morrison streets today. A special matinee at 2:15 o'clock and the last time tonight at 8:15.

See Alice Lloyd at the Orpheum.

Only four more performances of the great sell at the Orpheum this week. Don't miss this opportunity of seeing Alice Lloyd, England's greatest singing comedian. This little lady has completely captivated the town and has been winning money in a winning manner. Ask your neighbor about her. Matinee every day at the Orpheum.

Bir and Bang at Pantages.

Slap-stick comedy to be seen at its merriest at Pantages this week where Bir and Bang, the internationally famous comedians, are being laughably and merrily entertained. Without a doubt, they are the cleverest pair to appear in vaudeville in a similar act and provide a riot of mirth from rise to drop of curtain.

Remember the Grand.

In casting about for a place to see a good entertainment, remember that the Grand is offering a coring good show, one of the best vaudeville attractions of the season. All the acts are big and in the headlines class. Whitehead and Grierson are among the best comedians of the season with their sensational aerial act, provide the thrills.

Children's Matinee at Lyric.

Today's matinee will be for children and children. The Lyric Theater this afternoon will receive a present as a forerunner to Christmas and tonight "Mr. Tootle in Texas" will be repeated for the last time.

COMING ATTRACTIONS.

Geo. M. Cohan Tomorrow Night. The famous "Yankee Doodle" comedian, Geo. M. Cohan (Timothy), together with his royal family and a supporting company of nearly 100 people, will begin an engagement of three nights at the Bungalow Theater, Twelfth and Morrison streets, in his latest musical play success, "The Yankee Prince." Seats are now selling.

Franklin Underwood Next Week.

Coming to the Orpheum next week are two great favorites with Portland audiences, Franklin Underwood and Frances Slosson, presenting "Daddy's Dime" and "The Comedy of the First Water." Mr. Underwood and Miss Slosson have supported some of the most popular stars and their success in vaudeville has been remarkable.

At the Baker Next Week.

Another one of those LaSalle Theater musical comedies that are so popular with Portland theater-goers will be the attraction at the Baker for week commencing tomorrow matinee. The offering is "A Girl at the Circus" and will be just a little out of the ordinary in musical plays. Its chorus of big, little and pretty girls has been carefully selected.

From Africa's Jungle.

Most ferocious of all wild animals, seven animals from Africa's jungle will be presented by Princess Irene next week at Pantages. The animals are: a lion, a tiger, a leopard, a cheetah, a hyena, a baboon and a python. This will positively be the most sensational act ever offered in local vaudeville.

Who Found the Polar?

If you want to know who found the North pole, see one of the 12 polar bears which will be shown at exhibition as the headline act at the grand next week. There is no other animal like this as the bears are rare and are hard to teach. Among the most dangerous of wild animals, the polar bears have been taught by kindness.

"Bachelor's Honeymoon" Next.

Opening at the Lyric on next Sunday matinee, one of the most popular comedies that has ever been presented on the American stage will be shown to Portland audiences by the Athol Stock Company, when "The Bachelor's Honeymoon" will be presented.

Manufacturing sets, special sale, 50 per cent reduction; headquarters for domestic and imported perfumes. Stipe Taylor Drug Co., 289 Morrison st.

Ladies' handbags and leather novelties, special sale, 20 per cent reduction. Stipe Taylor Drug Co., 289 Morrison st.

WIFE FEARS KNIFE

Mrs. Elliott Gets Divorce From Murderous Husband.

FIVE COUPLES SEPARATED

Tale of Seven Years of Brutal Treatment, as Result of Drinking, Told in Suit Filed by Mrs. Oberer.

Attacked by her husband with a butcher knife with which he had been cutting raw meat—this was the experience that Mrs. Mary D. Elliott related to Circuit Judge Bronaugh yesterday morning in securing a divorce from Moses C. Elliott, whom she married at Heppner, January 4, 1903.

They were cooking in a logging camp, she said. Her husband brought in a large quantity of meat. She demurred, saying he had bought too much. He informed her it was none of her business, she testified, and started for her with the knife in his hand.

Mrs. Elliott said her husband became morose and sullen soon after the wedding, there being no apparent reason for it. He was curt and insulting, she said, on several occasions leaving her for periods of from four days to two weeks, and at last going away for good.

Five divorces were granted yesterday, four in addition to that of Mrs. Elliott. Mrs. Beattie Schnal said Sam Schnal swung a heavy chair at her last June, threatening to brain her, she thinks he would have made good his threat except for the interference of neighbors. She married him in January, 1907. She was given a decree.

Desertion was urged in three cases, as follows: Mary E. Thomas secured a divorce from C. H. B. Thomas, married at Molalla, January 22, 1900; Elizabeth McMillan from Archibald McMillan, married at Duluth, Minn., June 29, 1892; Nathaniel Dixon from Nellie Dixon, married December 15, 1906.

With the thoughts of her pending divorce preying upon her mind, Mrs. Eva Puckett swooned yesterday morning and was unable to appear in court, according to her attorney. So Judge Bronaugh continued the case. She married T. O. Puckett, July 4, 1907. She says her husband once attacked her with a drawing dagger, holding the point to her breast, and clapping his left hand over her mouth to prevent an outcry.

She bore with him until March, 1907, when they were living in the timber at a sawmill near Black Rock, Polk County, she says. Then he left her and the children without food or money, and called for two months to work. In desperation she sent the children to her mother, Mrs. B. Williams, of Hillsboro, and sought out her husband at Falls City, where she found him. But she found her husband, she says, "unfit for her or anybody else."

She had circled secretly went to Salem, he had circled, she reports as to her character, she alleges.

She started a divorce suit at Salem, but, he apologized, and offered to do better, so she withdrew it. But one night when she persuaded him to go to a social dance, he drank to excess, and left her to go home alone, while he went to a saloon for more liquor. At another time, when she went to a dance with a neighboring family, he locked her out of doors, she alleges.

In seven months he gave her only \$1. She demands \$100 alimony pending the trial of the suit, \$250 attorney's fees and suit money, \$50 a month alimony when the suit is tried, and the custody of the children.

CHICKS AND CATS ENTER

ANNUAL PET STOCK SHOW WILL OPEN MONDAY.

Hall Above Washington Market Has Been Fitted Up to Receive Poultry and Feline Entries.

Next Monday morning the 15th annual show of the Oregon Poultry & Pet Stock Association will open in the large hall above the Washington-street public market, at the corner of First street. This will be conveniently arranged for the royal blooded pets of the fanciers and fanciers who will compete for the coveted blue ribbons.

Exclusively to poultry and birds. Individual birds and pens have been entered by breeders from all the Pacific Coast States and the total passed the 100 mark last night. All the fancy breeds, as well as ordinary chickens of the regular poultry farmers will be judged in competition for the prizes subscribed by members of the association. Exhibits are now being placed under the direction of C. D. Minton, who will superintend the show.

Thursday morning the exhibit will be augmented by the addition of fancy-bred cats owned in Oregon and other portions of the West. One entry for this section comprises a family of 11 cats and kittens owned by a well-known Tacoma breeder. Some of the best-bred cats in the world are owned in Portland and choice specimens are promised for the show. This feature is attracting unusual interest this year and it is expected the cages will contain the most interesting collection of felines ever shown in Oregon.

Among the prizes hung up in the two divisions of the exhibit are several silver cups. The most valuable award has been donated for a sweetest competition in chickens and consists of a silver dinner service valued at \$100. It is offered by the association.

On the opening day, D. N. Nash, president, and J. C. Murray, secretary, are arranging to entertain the school children of Portland. Any child under 16 will be admitted free. They will be conducted through the hall and the points of the pure-bred fowls will be explained to them. Invitations have been mailed to the various schools, but no child will need more identification at the door than is possessed by a cheerful countenance.

In past years these animal shows have attracted a large attendance of fanciers, breeders and spectators, and arrangements are being made to provide plenty



Winner of Every Glidden Tour

COVEY MOTOR CAR CO. Seventh and Couch Sts. PIERCE CADILLAC

of room for the crowds which are expected to visit the aristocrats of the poultry and cat world next week.

SEALSKIN PRICES JUMP

ADVANCE OF 40 PER CENT CALLED FROM LONDON.

Surplus of Bachelors and Extinction of Isolated Herds Limits Supply.

Owing to the wholesale destruction of seals in the waters of the North Pacific and Arctic Oceans, it is becoming apparent that the catch for this season is one of the smallest for many years and as a result those furs which are now available for use of the manufacturers of the East are commanding high prices. A cable message received last night by H. Liebes & Co., Portland furriers, announced that the London market has advanced fully 25 per cent on the common qualities of sealskins, while the best which can be obtained have gone up 40 per cent.

Another element which is having a strong effect on prices is found in the reports from the Government stations along the North Coast and from the commission which has attempted recently to gather data as to the seal population. On many of the islands which have been the homes of the animals for many years the herds have become entirely or almost extinct. On others where the Government has been able to furnish a degree of protection it has been ascertained that the herds were not increasing in number as rapidly as should be counted on under normal conditions, and the reason was found to be that a large proportion of the members of the herds were bachelors. Efforts will be made to import a supply of female seals.

Portland has stood at the head of ports of entry for sealskins for many years and has distributed furs through the markets of the world. It is probable that importers will be in no haste to ship their herds of skins as they are so scarce during the present season, indications as to prices warranting them in holding.

SHOPPING RUSH EXPECTED

More Clerks Employed in Anticipation of Work Today.

An unprecedented rush of Christmas shoppers is expected today by shopkeepers and many additional clerks were being put to work yesterday to handle the influx. Night trading is expected to be particularly heavy, for many persons make a practice, from year to year, of completing their holiday shopping the Saturday preceding Christmas, so dealers have found.

Yesterday's trading, while brisk, did not break any previous records, at least among the larger houses. Women again predominated in the shopping crowds and few male shoppers were about, which seems to make a certainty of the 11th-hour rush which those of humanitarian impulses have been striving to offset by urging early shopping. While most of the stores are now carrying heavy increases of stock, further additions will be needed for next week, it is believed.

Several of the larger stores and some of the smaller ones took up the work of placing their final window displays for the holiday trade last night, and window dressers were at work well into the night. Superb creations have been evolved by the window artists and all the windows are attractive. Business men generally predict the biggest Christmas trade in the history of Portland.

BODY OF UNKNOWN FOUND

Waves Wash Ashore Remains of Man Near Arch Cape.

ASTORIA, Or., Dec. 17.—(Special.)—Coroner Gilbaugh arrived tonight with the body of a man found on the ocean beach below Arch Cape. The body is supposed to be that of Henry Wickman, the member of the Garibaldi lifesaving crew

who was drowned while rescuing passengers from the wrecked steamer Argo. It is now considered doubtful if the body is Wickman's and it is believed to be Martin Anderson, the Argo's fireman, who was swept overboard.

The body is badly mutilated, the head having disappeared. The only means of identification are some tattoo figures on the arms and Wickman's initials, which he had on such marks. Another brother at Empire City is being communicated with but he cannot be heard from till tomorrow.

WHITE MAN STEALS CHICKS

Tom Maloney Pleads Guilty to Theft, Circle to Selling Fowls.

ASTORIA, Or., Dec. 17.—(Special.)—Tom Maloney pleaded guilty before Justice Douthett today to the charge of stealing chickens and was sentenced to serve 45 days in the County Jail.

George Circle pleaded guilty at the same time to selling stolen property and was fined \$25. Circle, who is a member of a prominent family of The Dalles, sold the chickens. Both men are in jail.

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Sherman Clay & Co. Steinway and Other Pianos. A galaxy of beautiful pianos this season which for number and value far surpasses all previous displays. Our special holiday stock of Steinway, Everett, A. B. Chase, Conover, Ludwig, Packard, Kurtzmann and other pianos combine to make our salesrooms a paradise for lovers of the beautiful in pianos. Many styles of architecture are shown and an amazing number of fancy woods. Good Low-Priced Pianos. No one who wishes a piano need go without one this Christmas. Those who prefer a good used piano, for little money, will find our Exchange Dept. a veritable Christmas feast. Steinways, Fischers, Gramers, Kingsburys, Kimballs and other less well-known makes; all in first-class condition. Easy terms may be arranged. Remember our guarantee goes with every sale, and for nearly forty years it has been known all over the Pacific Coast as the "Guarantee that holds the buyer absolutely safe." Old pianos taken in exchange at a fair valuation. Visitors are always welcome in our warerooms, but at this season they are especially so. A stroll through our salesrooms is a liberal education in piano values, for spread before you is the result of nearly forty years' experience in conducting the greatest piano business in the West. Every instrument is marked in plain figures at the only price that will buy it. Come early in the day as convenient. Investigate thoroughly—that's what we like. Ask questions freely. SPECIAL DELIVERY—Pianos bought now can be delivered Christmas eve without fail. Player-Pianos. We have a large line of pianos that anyone can play—A. B. Chase "Artisan," Cecilian, Inner-Player, Euphonia, Cadillac, Kurtzmann, Ludwig and other Player Pianos. Visit Sherman, Clay & Co.'s Victor Parlors. Free concerts every hour. Store open evenings until Christmas.

The Value of a Reputation

When you want a house built you go to a contractor with a reputation—one whose ability is proven by the structures he has erected.

BODY MAY BE LIFESAVER'S

Corpse Washed Ashore Near Arch Cape. Nude and Mutilated.

ASTORIA, Or., Dec. 17.—(Special.)—A telephone message was received here late last night that the body of a man had been washed ashore near Arch Cape, eight miles below Elk Creek. The clothing has been worn off by the action of the waves and the body had been so badly mutilated by shell fish as to be unrecognizable, but it is believed to be that of Fred Wickman, the member of the lifesaving crew who was drowned by age smashing of the lifeboat while attempting to rescue passengers from the wrecked steamer Argo off Tillamook Bay. The jacket worn by Wickman when he was drowned was found on the beach near Elk Creek a few days ago.

DO THE SAME FOR YOUR FOODS

Buy the products of a company whose name means something—means purity, skill and honesty, and whose reputation is sustained by what it has accomplished in the past. We have built on such products as these:

Columbia Ham, Columbia Lard, Columbia Bacon, Columbia Pork Sausage

ASK FOR THEM BY NAME

Union Meat Co

Pioneer Packers of the Pacific

Portland, Oregon.

Commencing Monday We Will Sell At

1/2 PRICE---All Wines

POSTAL TELEGRAPH COMMERCIAL CABLES

CLARENCE HAZARD, PRESIDENT TELEGRAM

R59SF R 18 934a

Spring Valley Wine Co., 244 Yamhill St., near 2d, Portland—

Owing to overstock herewith instruct you to sell all California wines at half price effective December twentieth until further notice.

Whiskeys, Brandies, Etc., at Greatly Reduced Prices

Spring Valley Wine Co. Main 539 244 Yamhill A 1117

CASH OR EASY PAYMENTS. An Xmas Present For The Family. Pianos and Player-Pianos. BUSH & LANE PIANO CO. 386 WASHINGTON STREET Between W. PARK and 10th Sts. Open Evenings.