

# FIGHT IS ON FOR LEOPOLD'S WEALTH

Will Leaves \$3,000,000 to be Divided Among His Three Daughters.

## FORTUNE IS NOT KNOWN

Large Part Turned Over to Baroness Vaughan and Her Children and Stock Company Formed to Forestall Raids by Princesses.

### LATE PHOTOGRAPHS OF FUTURE KING AND QUEEN OF BELGIUM, PRINCE AND PRINCESS ALBERT



BRUSSELS, Dec. 17.—The filing of King Leopold's will today shows that he divided \$3,000,000 between his three daughters, Princess Louise, Princess Stephanie and Princess Clementine. This practical disinheritation of his children signals the beginning of a gigantic legal battle to obtain the King's wealth, similar to that which ensued on the death of their mother, Queen Henrietta.

The exact amount of Leopold's fortune probably never will be revealed. Henry Winer, the King's friend and confidential legal adviser, told the Associated Press today that Leopold turned over a large portion of it to the Baroness Vaughan and her children and created a stock company of his estates to forestall a possible raid upon it by the Princesses Louise and Stephanie or their creditors.

#### Right of Succession Safe.

Senator Winer said that later perhaps large portions of the estate would be given to Belgium. The Princess Clementine, aside from bequests she will receive, is provided for by a special income from Congo property.

Investigation shows that the right of succession to the throne of the child of King Leopold by the Baroness Vaughan is not worthy of serious attention. It is pointed out by Senator Winer that if there were only a religious ceremony, laws of the kingdom would prevent the accession of the child of such a union. The Senator, however, does not believe there was even a religious marriage.

If it is established that the Baroness Vaughan is of foreign birth, she probably will be expelled from Belgium, like the favorite of Leopold I, the Baroness Mayer, whose home was attacked and destroyed by a mob after the King's death.

#### First Legal Steps Taken.

Under the Belgian law a parent is not permitted to bequeath more than a quarter of his belongings away from his children, and reports are current tonight that counsel for Princess Louise has made the first move toward a legal contest.

The Court of First Instance granted an injunction tonight, sought by the Baroness Vaughan, restraining the authorities from affixing seals on her residence. The action of Princess Louise in attempting to have the seals affixed is due to her belief that valuable property belonging to King Leopold is in the villa of the Baroness.

The Socialist organ, the People, violently attacks the King's memory because he repulsed his daughters and admitted his mistress to his bedside. The paper discusses the reported morganatic marriage of the King and Baroness Vaughan, and asks whether the children of this union, since the Vatican has confirmed the marriage, will hold pretensions to the throne. This point appears to be settled by the constitution, the assertion being made by prominent statesmen that the children will have no rights, but it is understood they will inherit a great part of the King's immense fortune.

#### Public Not to See Face.

The entire kingdom of Belgium mourns the departed ruler, Leopold II. Courts, schools and theaters are closed. Parliament and the Municipal Council have adjourned and flags are at half mast in every city, town and village of the kingdom.

Under the constitution affairs of the nation are in the control of the Cabinet. Prince Albert takes the oath of succession next Thursday, the day after the funeral of his uncle.

An official decree issued today lauds King Leopold's career and declares his creation of the Congo Independent State was unique in history.

"Posterity will judge Leopold a great King with a grand reign," it says. The body of the king lies in the mortuary chapel of "The Palm" tomorrow night it will be removed to the palace in Brussels. The face of the dead ruler will not be exposed to public view.

#### LOUISE STARTS FOR BRUSSELS

Princess Hopes for Reconciliation With Sisters at King's Bier.

PARIS, Dec. 18.—A dispatch to the Matin from Budapest says that Princess Louise left Budapest for Brussels at 1 o'clock this (Saturday) morning. Prior to her departure the correspondent says, Princess Louise made the following statement to him:

"Never can I console myself over the thought that the king died without his children being able to say a last farewell. I know this regret is shared by the whole family. I leave here with the sincere hope of our family disensions disappearing around the bier of the King. I am ready to do all I can to effect a reconciliation with my sisters."

#### LEOPOLD TOO BIG FOR STAGE

Opposition Organ Sums Up Characteristics of Dead King.

BRUSSELS, Dec. 17.—The Dernière House, one of the staunchest organs that opposed his policy in the Congo, says: "Leopold was of a race that made Caesars and he had all the necessary qualities and faults. There was lacking only a grand theater for his operations, which modest Belgium did not afford." "His whole life was a struggle to attain in the world the position to which his nature and ambitions aspired. He was intelligent, but his was the intelligence of the potentate, regarding his aims and ends. He was a leader of men, but not of the people."

#### Prince Near-Guest of Hill.

SEATTLE, Dec. 17.—Prince Albert of Belgium, who will succeed King Leopold, was to have been the guest of Samuel Hill, of this city, son-in-law of James J. Hill, during a visit to the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition, and the \$200,000 Hill mansion in this city was especially designed for the entertainment of the Prince.

The illness of King Leopold prevented the journey. Prince Albert is honorary president of the International Good Roads Association and is taking a deep interest in the next international meeting, to be held in Brussels.

## FRAUD THEIR COVER

Farmer's Testimony in Coal Suit Startles.

### NONSUITS ARE OVERRULED

Federal Judge at Denver Insists Case Has Already Been Made Against Defendants—Land Office May Be Involved.

#### RECENT PORTRAIT OF LATE KING AND PHOTOGRAPH OF HIS FAVORITE DAUGHTER, PRINCESS CLEMENTINE.



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#### ARDREY IS IN LINE

HUSBAND ADDS VERY LITTLE Fletcher Snead Insists Girl's Aunt Was Finest of Women.

ST. CATHERINES, Ont., Dec. 17.—"I really know very little of my wife's death," reaffirms Fletcher Snead today, at the hotel, where since last April he has been working as assistant chef under the name of John Lucas.

"In justice to Miss Wardlaw, however," he continued, "I would say that she is one of the finest women who ever lived; in fact, they were three of the finest women one could know."

Snead declared that he knew nothing of any insurance of his deceased wife and would not state why he left her.

#### MILWAUKIE MAN TO GET LAND OFFICE RECEIVERSHIP.

BOURNE NAMES FRIEND

RECEIVES BIBLE AND REGISTER DRESSER, OF PORTLAND OFFICE, RETIRE TODAY AND CHARLES B. MERRICK BECOMES SUCCESSOR TO DRESSER.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Dec. 17.—J. C. Ardrey today was recommended by Senator Bourne for appointment as Receiver at the Portland Land Office, to succeed George W. Bibbe, whose term expires tomorrow.

#### TARIFF WAR THREATENED

France's Action Complicates Canadian-American Relations.

OTTAWA, Ont., Dec. 17.—The action of the French Chamber of Deputies in threatening to increase greatly the tariff rates that apply to American agricultural implements, has served to indicate that the change in the rates on the Canadian-American tariff relations, as viewed on this side of the line.

#### SUICIDE, SAYS DEFENSE

MRS. SNEAD STARVED TO DEATH IS MOTHER'S STORY.

Three Women Accused of Murder Occupy Separate Cells in Tombs Prison.

#### FAMILY OF 11 MAROONED

Storm on Mississippi Casts Rowboats on Island in Midstream.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Dec. 17.—Levi Frank, his wife and nine children were brought in an exhausted condition to this city yesterday from a point several miles up the Mississippi River. In the recent big blizzard the three open rowboats, in which they had fought their way for 400 miles down the Father of Waters, were stranded on an island in midstream.

#### STRIKE CONGESTS TRAFFIC

Eberhart Says Conditions Far From Normal, Due to Switchmen Strike.

#### Hood's Sarsaparilla

WHO IS TO BLAME.

#### NEW PICTURES

500 pictures in etchings, carbon and gravures.

#### French Perfumery

Coty's, Roger & Gallet's, Guerlain's and other French perfumes and Sachet Powders; also an assortment of fine American perfumes in all extracts.

#### FANCY BASKETS

Raffia work baskets, at 15c, 25c, 50c to \$1.50.

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Don't delay your picture-framing orders.

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Repetti's Famous Caramels Portland Agents

## Lipman-Wolfe & Co.

Lowney's Celebrated Candy Portland Agents

Goods Purchased Today Billed to You

**Merchandise Bonds February 1**

—The worry and inconvenience invariably encountered during the rushed Christmas shopping period is overcome through use of our Merchandise Certificates, which permit selection at will from our stocks to the amount of the face value of the certificate. This method insures utmost satisfaction and is highly recommended to employers desiring to remember their employes at Christmas time.

**Glove Bonds**

—There are few things that can be suggested which are more practical for giving than gloves—they at once assure the fullest measure of appreciation, and no one can have too many pairs. Our Glove Bonds enable the recipient to select the desired style of glove in the correct size. The increased number of these bonds which we sell each year proves their great popularity.

## Jewelry-Store Jewelry at Dept.-Store Prices



IN THE RUSH AND RIOT OF CHOOSING, don't forget the rich possibilities in our Jewelry Department. There is a definite fascination about jewelry that makes it particularly alluring to every one. Add to this our low prices, then one is not surprised to see the swarms around this section.

—Our stock of jewelry attracts the eye, pleases the senses and tempts the purse. Buy today with the stock at its best.

—Special Xmas sale of mounted combs, jet jewelry, white stone novelty jewelry, cut glass and tea sets.

## If It's Handkerchiefs, It Must Be Here. Why?



—GREATEST ASSORTMENT IN THE CITY. Multitudes of styles not to be found elsewhere. Prices in every instance the lowest. This year's display occupies two complete aisles. No matter what you are looking for, you are bound to find it here at special prices. Handkerchiefs for men, women and children.

## Exquisite Ostrich Plumes. Christmas Specials

—Richest African stock in long, extra full, double hand-tied, glossy black Willow Plumes.

—PRICES THAT WE GUARANTEE HAVE NEVER BEFORE BEEN QUOTED IN PORTLAND—OR ELSEWHERE FOR THAT MATTER.

- \$20.00 Willow Plumes, Now \$13.95
- \$17.00 Willow Plumes, Now \$10.95
- \$22.50 Willow Plumes, Now \$15.00
- \$10.00 French Plumes, Now \$ 7.23

## 'Twill Be a Wonderful Day in Books, Today



—In Portland's largest and best book-store. With competent salespeople to assist you in making your selections, BOOK BUYING BECOMES A PLEASURE INSTEAD OF A TASK. You will find all the books here that you will find elsewhere, and hundreds of others that can be found here only. Immense variety of children's books, PARTICULARLY IN CHILDREN'S GIFT BOOKS. Edition de Luxe sets at less than half publishers' prices. Bibles, popular fiction and the Mosher Books, for which we are Portland agents.

## This Stock Is Brilliant With Novelties

American and Foreign Novelties In Beautiful Leather Goods

—You can't appreciate our leather goods department unless you know HOW IT DIFFERS FROM OTHER STORES. Our plan of merchandising in this department is original and successful. Every week we receive the latest American and foreign novelties in leather goods. We are continually showing styles no other stores have. Combined with this, SELLING ONLY RELIABLE QUALITIES AND CHARGING LESS FOR THEM THAN OTHERS, we maintain a supremacy in this department that we are proud of.

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## Buy Victor Talking Machine; \$1 Down, \$1 Week

French Perfumery

—Coty's, Roger & Gallet's, Guerlain's and other French perfumes and Sachet Powders; also an assortment of fine American perfumes in all extracts.

FANCY BASKETS

—Fancy reed and raffia baskets for office, for sewing and work baskets, children's baskets. In an immense variety of different styles and shapes.

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—500 pictures in etchings, carbon and gravures. An assortment of rich hard wood frames. Selected subjects. Values as high as \$5.00. Special Today \$1.95

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