

LATE POSTMASTER BORN POLITICIAN

Mr. Merrick Landed in Portland With Only \$12 in His Pocket.

DEATH COMES AT AGE OF 38

Rapid Rise in Official World Seen in Fact That Five Years After Arrival Here Head of Land Office Is Position Given.

Charles Benjamin Merrick, who met an untimely death at Lakeview, was 38 years old and had been a resident of Portland for seven years.

Alive, he was a man admired and respected, and a leading factor of the internal growth of Portland. Now his memory is revered by great and small of the community, with the already expressed intention to provide for those loving hearts of widow and children.

It was in 1905 that Mr. Merrick came to Portland, and he had exactly \$12 in his pocket, but a hat full of brains and enthusiasm. This money dwindled down to \$2 before he was given a job as a solicitor of advertisements on a program that some grocers were issuing. He made a success of this, and, taking advantage of it, his future was assured, as he showed the necessity of establishing a permanent organization, starting a journal of their own, of which he became the directing head and practically controlled at the time of his death. It had even reached out to become a state institution with mutual insurance features.

Born Politician Was Postmaster.

Mr. Merrick was a natural and born politician, but never crossed a friend or foe, and with an assurance of perfect personal honesty, in a few years he had probably more personal friends upon whom he could rely than any other individual in Oregon. Five years after his arrival in Portland he was appointed Register of the United States Land Office, and, after holding this position for six months, was appointed Postmaster to succeed John P. Young.

During these seven years Mr. Merrick accomplished much more than his personal advancement, and it was these other things by which he will be remembered and on account of which leading business interests of the city are taking a practical way of expressing their appreciation of his civic work.

He was among the first to grasp the idea of a greater and more beautiful Portland and was an active organizer of the different district development clubs, constantly attending and addressing them, and which were organized under a central body, their effect then becoming dominant in civic affairs but always separated from partisan politics. Finally, after the plan for the more beautification of Portland was adopted, The Greater Portland Plans Association was organized to embody all the other 52 organizations and Mr. Merrick was unanimously elected its president, although every active leading business mind in the city was a member of one of the organizations.

True Worth Shown.

Here was where Mr. Merrick showed his true worth to the community and he was doing it well. At every opportunity he addressed meetings of every character with the one object of presenting these Greater Portland plans to the citizens. Sometimes they seemed out of place, but the personality and good humor of Mr. Merrick were such that his particular feature made the hit of the evening and often he made the same talk at three meetings in one evening.

Postmaster Merrick was beloved by his employees, even though he had no immediate authority to engage or discharge them, all being under the power of the rules. He ruled with a firmness of investigation and recommendation, but when a complaint came to him from any department he learned the names of all interested parties and he called them to his office. He would then say, "I am the judge and you the jury—throw it out among yourselves."

These conferences in Portland had been so successful that justice had been done and by themselves. Only once he asked a man to resign and some of the employees told him that the man ought to be prosecuted, but Mr. Merrick said: "He is only a young man and may get married some time. I was thinking about his children."

Merrick Told to Carry City.

As an appointee of Senator Bourne, with a \$6000 a year job, he could not take an active part in the recent primary election, but was the advisory head of that campaign for the senator. The Senator told me to carry the city for him and pay no attention to the state. I wrote him that I thought business interests in Portland had rounded favorably to him, but I heard bad reports from some of the outside counties. He replied for me to keep my hands off of all parts of the state except Portland and I did.

The returns showed that Bourne carried the city and that he was defeated by the votes of the rural communities.

Mr. Merrick was born in Saginaw, Mich., July 30, 1874, and at the age of two years accompanied his parents to Bay City, Mich., where he remained for nine years and then went to West Branch, Mich., where he attended the public school until he was 18, when he taught school for four years, but this life was too tame for his disposition and he went to Detroit to become a bicycle salesman and at the same time study law. Then the Spanish-American War broke out and he answered the call to arms he joined Company M, Thirty-third Regiment, Michigan volunteers, seeing active service.

Journalism Attracts Him.

Before this campaign had ended he was attracted by yellow and typhoid fever in succession and after being sent home to Detroit he suffered an attack of pneumonia, after regaining his health he engaged in the newspaper business at Detroit, finishing his law studies, and later at Cleveland. A good opportunity offered for him to go on the road as a traveling man for the United States Graphite Company, but the territory given him did not prove a profitable field and he landed in Portland with \$12 and his future to be made.

In 1906 he married Miss Mary Kearney, of Seattle, and the result of the union is two children, Patrick, aged five, and Margaret, aged two, both companions rather than children of their father.

At the request of Mrs. Merrick the entire arrangements for the funeral have been placed in charge of Dan Kellaher, who was a close personal friend. The body is expected to arrive in Portland on Saturday afternoon and the funeral may be held on Sunday.

With all his other private and public duties Mr. Merrick was an active

member of a number of organizations and devoted as much time to them as possible, they being: Knights of Columbus, Press Club, Women of the World, Knights of the Maccabees, Ancient Order of Hibernians and United Spanish-American War Veterans, all of which will take appropriate action and attend the funeral in a body.

As soon as the announcement of the death of Mr. Merrick was received the firm of Hartman & Thompson, representing his bondsmen, was notified and it authorized Assistant Postmaster Williamson to continue in charge of the office as its representative. Mr. Williamson immediately telegraphed the Postmaster-General and the Secretary of the Treasury of the death and this action and under the general rules will act until a new Postmaster is appointed.

MERRICK DIES IN BATH

(Continued From First Page.)

come of Mr. Merrick. He had been missed only a few minutes and a quick glance showed he was not on the platform or in the dressing rooms.

Search by the dim lantern light revealed his body floating under the surface of the water where the depth could have been up to his chest had he



Charles B. Merrick, Portland Postmaster, who died suddenly while bathing near Lakeview.

stood erect. Mr. Wellcome made the discovery and the body was immediately removed from the water and all three physicians began the attempt at resuscitation. There was no water whatever in Mr. Merrick's lungs and no pulse could be detected. Nevertheless, the doctors continued working over him for an hour, but without avail.

Friends Are Summoned.

Mr. Orton and Mr. Perry were then summoned and the body was removed to an undertaking establishment.

Mr. Perry telegraphed the news to Deputy Postmaster Williamson at Portland and asked him to break the news to Mrs. Merrick.

It is the present plan to send the body by rail to Portland in custody of Mr. Orton. It is necessary in order to secure an all-rail route to go to Reno, thence to Sacramento and thence to Portland. Arrival at Portland should be Saturday morning. It is stated by Mr. Orton, who was a long-time friend of Mr. Merrick, that the latter was about a month ago that he might die suddenly from heart failure.

He was advised to eat less, get back to the land or lead the simple life. The advice was disregarded in large part, although he made an effort to get out more in the open. His physical weakness, it is believed, was made worse by the sudden change to a high altitude and the shock to his system of the plunge in the hot mineral water.

ADMEN TOUCHED BY SAD NEWS

Death of Postmaster Observed by Prayer at Weekly Luncheon.

A striking tribute was paid to the memory of C. B. Merrick, when the admen assembled for the weekly luncheon at the Multnomah Hotel yesterday, arose by one impulse and stood silently with bowed heads while Professor Robert C. French, of the Y. M. C. A., was called upon to give a short prayer for their fellow member, news of whose death had just reached them.

Mr. Merrick was president of the Ad Club and one of the most active men in building it up in the early days of its organization, and in laying the foundation for its present wide membership. At all times he had been prominent in the club's activities and was being suggested that the presidency be offered him a second time, that he might reap the rewards for his early activities in heading off more of the association whose success had been in so great a degree due to his efforts.

A committee of admen, consisting of M. N. Dana, R. W. Raymond, F. Berg, J. Fred Larson and W. T. Buchanan, met after the luncheon to arrange for the Ad Club's part in the funeral ceremonies, that are to be held when the body reaches Portland. In case the funeral is held before another meeting of the club, a call will be sent out and the members will assemble in a body to do honor to their departed friend and fellow adman.

CHAMBER EXPRESSES REGRET

Resolutions Extolling Mr. Merrick's Character Are Passed.

Within a few hours after the death of C. B. Merrick was announced in Portland, a call was issued for a special meeting of the board of trustees of the Portland Chamber of Commerce to draw up fitting resolutions of regret. The meeting was held early in the afternoon and the following resolution was adopted by the board:

Whereas, it has pleased the Almighty, in his infinite wisdom, to remove from our midst Charles B. Merrick, one of Portland's leading citizens and a member of the Portland Chamber of Commerce; and

Whereas, Charles B. Merrick has taken an active part in the development of the city and in its institutions and in everything pertaining to its welfare; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Portland Chamber of Commerce, by this organization regrets his early demise, that it holds his character as one worthy of emulation, that it offers the sympathy of its members to the bereaved family; and be it further

Resolved, that these resolutions form a part of the minutes of the organization; that a copy be sent to the family of the deceased and that the daily press be requested to publish them.

PRESS CLUB TAKES ACTION

Portland Organization Expresses Condolences Over Death.

The following resolution was passed yesterday by the board of managers of the Portland Press Club:

Whereas, our late member, Charles B. Merrick, has been called to the Great Beyond; and

Whereas, his death deprives the Portland Press Club of a loved and respected friend and associate, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the board of managers of the Portland Press Club hereby tender the bereaved family the profound sympathy of the club.

It was further resolved that a body of 20 members be appointed by the president to represent the club at the funeral.

CLASH IS EXPECTED

Bourne Will Demand Right to Name New Postmaster.

EARLY ACTION IS UNLIKELY

President in Past Two Years Has Been Disinclined to Consult Senator—Recess Appointment Likely to Be Made.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Aug. 21.—Unless the session of Congress is protracted, the appointment of the successor to Postmaster Merrick will not be made until after adjournment, and then the man selected by the President will be appointed for the recess, which will hold him in office until March 4 next.

No steps will be taken looking to selection of the new postmaster until after the funeral of Mr. Merrick, and it is possible that a clash will come between the President and Senator Bourne when the subject is taken up.

Taft Has Ignored Bourne. President Taft has not been disposed in the past two years to consult Senator Bourne in regard to Oregon patronage. In fact, he has completely ignored him, rejecting candidates Bourne recommended and appointing others recommended by National Committee men, Williams and by Representatives Hawley and Lafferty. Now Lafferty is persona non grata at the White House and the only Williams and Hawley are relied upon by the President.

Under one of the unwritten rules, the appointment of the Portland postmaster belongs to Senator Bourne, that being his "home town," and if Bourne's recommendation is ignored the choice ordinarily would shift to Lafferty. But the President follows the rule of allowing the Republican Senators to name their home postmasters, he probably will consult Williams and Hawley before appointing the new Portland postmaster.

Senator Will Persist. If the President should yield to Senator Bourne on this appointment, it would be the first time since their break, and such concession is not looked for. Senator Bourne, while unwilling today to make any statement, will persist in his contention that the right of selection of the Portland postmaster, like the selection of other officials in Oregon, belongs primarily to him and the President must in good faith, make the appointment on his recommendation.

Senator Bourne probably will make no recommendation before the close of the week.

It was said at the Postoffice Department today that Merrick's bondsmen are now in the hands of the conduct of the Portland Postoffice and will be until his successor is named and qualified. If it is agreeable to them the assistant postmaster will be placed temporarily in charge, to conduct the office until the President acts.

PHYSICIANS AT AD CLUB

Quacks Denounced, Also Papers That Carry Their Advertising.

The regular programme at the Ad Club luncheon at the Multnomah Hotel yesterday was in the hands of physicians and it was presided over by Dr. John P. Beaumont.

Dr. J. Chris O'Day, speaking on "Medical Advertising, Genuine and Spurious," in the course of his address, bitterly denounced quacks who advertise themselves as "specialists in the treatment of men." Equally sharp were his criticisms of newspapers and periodicals that accept advertising from doctors of this class.

Dr. Walter T. Williamson, following Dr. O'Day, said there is in Oregon today only one newspaper that, in spite of the urging of the Social Hygiene Society and the example set by other papers, continues to handle advertising matter of this character.

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CHINESE USE CIGARETTE

DRUGGISTS SAY OPIUM DISPLACED BY "PILLS."

Activity of Tobacco Trust Said to Be Responsible for Introduction Into New Republic.

Opium, for centuries the curse of the Chinese Empire, has given way before the insidious American cigarette, which in America the cigarette is leading to a more general use of opium, according to the statements today of Professor Albert Schneider, who is in charge of the United States Bureau of Chemistry at San Francisco, before the American Pharmaceutical Association, in annual convention here.

The activity of the "tobacco trust," as Professor Schneider designated it, both in America and Europe, was declared to be the cause.

Professor Schneider asked the Pharmaceutical Association to take cognizance of his statements and bring the matter to the attention of the United States Government.

Schneider declared that immediately after the campaign against the use of opium in China the tobacco trust sent an army of men to the empire and distributed free more than \$5,000,000 worth of cigarettes. The empire was divided into the northern and southern districts, the European branch of the trust taking the southern district, while the northern part was handled through the American branch.

As a result of the campaign waged by the tobacco trust, said Professor Schneider, boys and girls in China, many like the more able to walk without assistance, are confirmed cigarette "fiends."

Professor Schneider said he had been told that opium was now being sold in China. The association bitterly attacked the report of the Surveyor of Ports McKinley, of San Francisco, who advocated a prohibitive tax on opium to prevent the spread of the opium habit and the sale of the narcotic in the United States. The association went on record as favoring stricter legislation rather than a prohibitive tax.

MERCURY JUMPS UP TO 91

In Suddenly Hot Day August Uncools Some More Freak Weather.

Yesterday was characterized by a noticeable upward vault in the thermometer, which has been for some time hanging about the "moderately cool" stages. Accordingly, the general public, unprepared for the sudden change in the temperature, proceeded to sweater and shed its coat, turn on the electric fan and uncover the head, only to find that the weather was not so kind as it seemed.

Forecasts for today indicate that this one hot day was merely another of the freaks of weather, for the promise for today is "fair, followed by probable showers and cooler weather."

At its highest point yesterday the thermometer registered 91 in the shade. The thermometer readings were as follows: 5 A. M., 63 degrees; 6 A. M., 62 degrees; 7 A. M., 64 degrees; 8 A. M., 65 degrees; 9 A. M., 70 degrees; 10 A. M., 73 degrees; 11 A. M., 75 degrees; 12 M., 81 degrees; 1 P. M., 85 degrees; 2 P. M., 89 degrees; 3 P. M., 90 degrees; 4 P. M., 91 degrees; 5 P. M., 90 degrees.

WIFE USES SNUFF, HE SAYS

J. R. Hensley In Defending Divorce Action Accuses Mate.

Three divorce settlements involving the petition for the support of children were discussed yesterday before County Judge Cleeton. The case against

Charles Hensley was dismissed upon agreement that the defendant would go back to his wife and provide for her, and by an informal settlement. Hensley, Bridgetine is to contribute \$4.50 per week toward the support of his 3-year-old child.

J. R. Hensley, defending himself against the charges brought by his wife, alleged that his wife smoked cigarettes, used snuff, displayed bad temper and "ran around with other men," leaving him in order to go to moving-picture shows in the evening. He also claimed that she made life "miserable for him in other ways" and that he had seen her drunk on many occasions. On cross-examination, however, it was brought out that the husband had always been with her when she was drunk and that he had provided her with the liquor.

By her testimony Mrs. Hensley established a case of non-support, alleged intermittent desertion and frequent drunkenness. The order of the court, passed at the conclusion of the testimony, was that the husband should pay \$4.50 each week to help toward the support of the three children resulting from the marriage. At a later date it will be determined who is to have custody of the children.

CHARTERS ARE OPPOSED

MAYOR SEES MENACE IN BUREAUING BALLOT.

Committee Authorized to Prepare Draft Supposed to Represent All Organizations.

Mayor Rushlight and probably a majority of the members of the City Council will oppose any effort on the part of the East Side Business Men's Club or other organization or individual to attempt to have the Council place on the general election ballot charters which have been prepared by these organizations providing for a commission form of government for Portland. The Mayor will hold out for the exclusive recognition by the Council of the proposed charter prepared by the charter committee, which was the result of the instigation of the Council.

"I will oppose any attempt to burden the ballot with a number of proposed commission charters," says Mayor Rushlight, "because such a system would be sure to defeat the cause. For example, if the ballot were to have three proposed charters, that would be a great percentage of the voters in favor of the commission plan. The vote would be divided between the three charters, and the vote of the people against the commission plan would not have to represent the sentiment of the people to win."

"The one charter drafted by the committee, I suppose, representing most of the organizations which have prepared charters, if placed on the ballot alone will give the people a chance to decide whether they want the commission government or not. More charters would confuse the issue, and for that reason I would oppose any but the one being placed on the ballot."

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FIGHT FILM WAR GROWS

Interstate Commerce Act May Be Invoked by Prosecution.

Preliminary investigations are being made by Rev. Benjamin Young, pastor of the First Methodist Episcopal Church, for the purpose of invoking the recently-passed Federal law against moving pictures of pugilistic encounters.

The act of Congress became a law on July 31, 1912, by the approval of President Taft, and is far-reaching in its effect, being at the same time an enlargement or extension of the general interstate commerce act. It provides that "No film or other pictorial representation of any prizefight or encounter of pugilists under whatever name, which is designed to be used or may be used for public exhibitions" can be sent through the mails, by express or carried from one state to another or by any other means, without incurring a penalty of a fine not to exceed \$1000 or imprisonment not to exceed one year in the penitentiary.

Dr. Young has consulted with United States District Attorney McCourt and if he can prove that the film of the Johnson-Flynn fight at Las Vegas, now being exhibited in this city, was brought into this state from another, prosecution will be instituted.

Bandon Churches Have Revival.

BANDON, Ore., Aug. 21.—(Special.)—The churches of Bandon are now experiencing a revival in their spiritual life. The arrival of Rev. R. Steele in Bandon in May the Methodist Church South, of which he is pastor, has brought a new life to the city. The Presbyterian congregation, under the leadership of Rev. H. Hartman, has begun the erection of a new edifice which is to cost \$6000 exclusive of the furniture. At a recent meeting of the Coos County Convention of the Christian Church, Secretary C. F. Swander, of Portland; State Evangelist Wilson, of Portland; Rev. T. B. McDonnell, of Coquille, and Rev. J. H. Thompson, of Bandon, were appointed a committee to visit Bandon this week with a view to establishing a Christian Church in this place.

Rosenthal's shoe sale now on.



Come and see our center window, showing a practical demonstration, to distance competition.

At The HOUSE of COATS

New Fall and Winter 1912-13 Double Service, All-Weather Coats for Men, Women, Boys and Girls.

To induce early buying we have arranged to have here all the factory and druggists' supplies for year 1912-13 in all the new models and fabrics, including the new English Gaberdines, English Slip-ons, All-weather Coats, etc.

For Thursday, Friday and Saturday

500 New Fall 1912-13 Factory and Druggists' Samples for men, women, boys and girls at prices that should command your attention.

Ladies' and Men's English Slip-ons and all-weather Coats, at only \$10

\$12.50 For Ladies' and Men's superb all-weather Coats and English Slip-ons. Take advantage.

Exceptional values in superb English Gaberdines and English Slip-ons, at \$18 and

\$18 A very fine lot of English Mohairs and Cheviots, for men and women. Exceptional quality at \$20 and \$18.

Why pay your tailor \$50 or \$60? See the acme of perfection in quality and make of this season's new English Gaberdines and Slip-ons, including superb combination Raincoats and Overcoats; special at \$35.00, \$30.00 and \$25.00

\$7.50 Ladies' Blue and Black Silk Slip-ons, special at

\$2.00 Girls' Storm Capes, with storm hoods, in red, blue, stripes and changeable silks, at

\$2.50 Boys' and Girls' Tan Rubber Slip-ons, with storm collars and cuffs, at

\$5.50 Boys' and Girls' English Slip-ons, just like the grown-ups wear, at

\$2.75 Boys' Rubber Surface Coats, stylishly made, storm cape caps, 85c extra

\$4.25 Men's and Ladies' tan and gray Rubber Slip-ons, at

The House of Coats—From Maker to Wearer at First Cost

STORE OPEN SATURDAY NIGHT UNTIL 10:30

GOODYEAR RAINCOAT COMPANY

343 WASHINGTON STREET 343

ONE DOOR ABOVE SEVENTH ST.

BANK IS GIVEN DEED

Ex-Head Defunct Vancouver Institution Gives Up Home.

VALUE PLACED AT \$21,000

Property to Be Sold to Pay Depositors After All Assets of Institution Have Been Exhausted Is Only Restriction Placed.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Aug. 21.—(Special.)—H. C. Phillips, ex-president of the defunct Commercial Bank of Vancouver, which closed its doors December 19, 1910, today deeded his home on Twelfth and East C streets to the Kieles, receiver, for his stock association, amounting to \$14,250. The bank receiver can now sell the property if a buyer is found.

Phillips had refused to turn over the property until this time, as there was a clause in the trust deed which permitted him to do so. The proceeds of the sale of the property may be sold and the proceeds used to apply toward the payment of any balance found due its depositors "after all of the assets of the bank have been exhausted."

Had Phillips willed he could have

held possession until every piece of land owned by the bank had been disposed of before he could by law be compelled to give a quit claim deed to his former home. The building cost Phillips about \$16,000 to build, he at the time, and the two lots, 100x100 feet square, are worth probably \$5000.

There is one charge against Phillips which has not yet been dismissed. It is generally believed here that he never will be tried again, as he went through two trials and was finally acquitted of the charge of accepting money for deposit when he knew the bank to be insolvent.

ALTAMEAD

Activity continues in ALTAMEAD. You can still get a good selection, but the best lots will not last long. Remember lots in Altamead have alleys. Sidewalks are in. It is where you would like to live, and we will build for you on small cash payment. Go out today and look it over. There will be salesmen on the ground. Phone for auto engagement and we will call for you and it will only take an hour to make the round trip. Telephone Main 937, A 2693.

Western Oregon Trust Co.

272 Stark Street

SUNDAY EXCURSION TO SCAPPOOSE ACRES

SEE THIS FINE TRACT

Only 25 miles from Portland, with railroad station on the land. Deep, rich soil, well watered, easy clearing. Big logging camp on tract, affording employment to settlers. Tracts of 10 acres and up. Prices \$25 to \$65 per acre with very easy payments. Close enough to be suburban property in a few years. You know what that means, so don't miss this opportunity.

Remember! One lucky real estate investment will make you more money than you can save from years of labor.

Excursion leaves North Bank Depot at 8 o'clock Sunday morning, returning there at 5:15 same afternoon. Free lunch. Round trip fare \$1.25, returned if you buy. See us at once and arrange to go on this excursion. Our office open evening until 8:30. Literature supplied on request. We can show this property any day.

Lueddemann, Bothfur & Co.

913-917 CHAMBER OF COMMERCE