

WOMAN IS OUSTED BY MASKED FORCE

Appeal Made to Governor of Washington.

HOME BURNED, SAYS VICTIM

Bitter Feud Starts Over Homestead Contest.

SONS TRIED FOR ASSAULT

Mrs. Margaret Ross, Who Achieved Notoriety as Democratic Politician, Says She Will Return, Despite Threat on Life.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Jan. 12.—Driven from her homestead 12 miles from here by a masked band of 16 men last night, Mrs. Margaret M. Ross, well-known Democratic politician, today sent an appeal to Governor Lister for protection and announced that she and her family would return to their home as soon as she received assurances from the authorities that she would not be molested.

According to the account told by Mrs. Ross, the 16 men, all masked and armed, forced their way into the house, removed her and her two sons and after setting fire to the place drove them 12 miles and ordered them not to return under penalty of death.

Sons Are Involved.
The trouble began some time ago, when Mrs. Ross' right to the claim was denied. Her two sons were then accused of assaulting a neighbor for alleged slander of their mother, leaving him for dead on the road. They were tried and convicted on an assault charge, but succeeded in getting a new trial. A bitter feud in the neighborhood resulted.

Mrs. Ross was Democratic candidate for State Representative from Chehalis County in the Fall of 1912 and stumped the state in the interest of the Democratic ticket.

Campaign Cut Short.
She gained prominence in the campaign by making addresses which, while ostensibly in aid of the Democratic ticket, were bitter attacks on the personal habits and character of Theodore Roosevelt. The Democratic State Central Committee withdrew its endorsement and her campaign speeches were cut short. The incident gave her a good deal of prominence in the state at that time.

Help Call Cancelled.
Mrs. Ross telephoned the police here tonight declaring that she was surrounded in the home of W. D. McCormick, 12 miles from the scene of last night's escapade, and asked that a posse be sent to her assistance. Her request was countermanded shortly afterward by Mrs. McCormick, who said the situation was under control. The police here could not act nor could Sheriff Mathews, because the McCormick home is in Pacific County, as is also the Ross ranch, where the incident occurred last night.

The trouble last night is due probably to a feud which started when the Ross family moved to a claim she was charged that Mrs. Ross and her sons "jumped" a homestead, said, on account of its timber, to be worth \$20,000. This she denies.

Neighbor's House Damaged.
The immediate cause of the Sunday night row is declared to have been the damage to the Vanderpool ranch house, near the Ross homestead, by a falling tree cut down by the Ross boys. They were charged with having felled the tree across the Vanderpool house. They deny the charge and say the wind took it in the direction of the Vanderpool house and they could not prevent it.

This incident, however, it is said, led to the formation of the force which went to the Ross house, marched out the occupants and burned the house and woodshed.

"I am going back tomorrow," Mrs. Ross telephoned from the McCormick house tonight. "Frowlers were about the house in the early part of the evening. They have gone now and I think I'm safe for tonight anyway. I am going back tomorrow and fight this thing through."

Sheriff Mathews says he will send Mrs. Ross help if she is molested in Chehalis County.

MRS. ROSS' REQUEST IS DENIED
Governor Refers Homesteader to Sheriff for Protection.

OLYMPIA, Wash., Jan. 12.—(Special.)—Governor Lister this morning received a telephone message from Mrs. Margaret M. Ross, who was at North McCormick's, asking his protection from a crew of vigilantes, whom she said had ousted her from a claim she was holding in Pacific County and marched her north several miles through the mud, refusing to allow her to return. Governor Lister advised Mrs. Ross to appeal to the Sheriff of Pacific County. Late in the day a second appeal for help was received. Mrs. Ross declaring the vigilantes would not allow her to cross the line into Pacific County, making it impossible for her to reach the Sheriff. Governor Lister repeated his earlier advice, holding he had no authority to act, and that the case should be handled by county authorities.

NEAR CLOUD BURST HITS SAN FRANCISCO

STREETS AND STORES FLOODED AND TRAFFIC IS HALTED.

Sandbag Dikes Are Thrown Up as Sewers Break or Cave In—Snow Falls in Northern California.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 12.—(Special.)—A downpour with the force of a cloudburst struck San Francisco today, flooding streets, cellars, stores, tying up traffic and for the moment paralyzing the life of the city.

The downpour, which gave San Francisco .2 of an inch of rain in 10 minutes, one of the heaviest short-period falls of years, was part of a storm which is battering the Pacific Coast.

A terrific snow storm is raging from Tehama County north to Oregon.

From Red Bluff southward there were heavy rains, heading for Southern California.

At sea shipping was menaced, several ships being driven to return to port by the heavy sea running on the bar.

Within a short time of the heaviest downpour, hundreds of reports of broken sewers or cave-ins were received at the Board of Works. Market and Seventh streets was the center of a lake. Besides damage to store basements, the main floors of whole blocks of business houses were covered an inch deep with silt and water.

The cars on many streets were held up for half an hour, due to a flood of sand and debris which the storm washed over the tracks.

At Sutter and Fillmore dikes of sandbags were thrown up hurriedly. From Sutter to McAllister, boxes and garbage cans floated away in a torrent that filled the street from doorstep to doorstep and flooded many places of business.

"ELSIE DAY" ARRAIGNED

Former Oregon Girl Hobo Charged With Robbery and Freed.

DES MOINES, Ia., Jan. 12.—(Special.)—Maud Clark, who, under the name of Elsie Day, bent her way with her two sons from Spokane, Wash., to Des Moines, a month ago, and for two days was thought to have been the victim of murder, when her bloodstained clothing was found in a boxcar at Aurora, Ill., was arraigned in police court here today, charged with robbery.

Her brother also was accused with her of robbing a house, and will be tried tomorrow. The charges against the girl were withdrawn and she will be sent back to her adopted parents in Washington.

CITY OFFICE GOES TO GIRL

Miss Ida Woods, Clerk, Defends Newberg Recorder of 10 Years.

NEWBERG, Or., Jan. 12.—(Special.)—Newberg today elected, through a large vote of the women, Miss Ida Woods, a store clerk, as Recorder, over W. W. Nelson, who has held the position for ten years. She won by 48 votes. J. P. Colcord was elected Mayor.

The women were out in force and made good use of their right of franchise for their favorites.

W. S. Wharton, banker, was elected Treasurer, and the following were selected as Councilmen: First Ward, Harland Smith; Second, Howard Williams; Third, George James.

ROSEBURG MAN CANDIDATE

George M. Brown Aspires to Office of Attorney-General.

ROSEBURG, Or., Jan. 12.—(Special.)—George M. Brown, for the past 15 years Prosecuting Attorney for this district, tonight announced he would be a candidate for Attorney-General at Oregon at the general election to be held in November.

District Attorney Brown was busy in court today, but said he would prepare his formal announcement within the next few days. Mr. Brown is a Republican and is one of the most widely-known lawyers in the state. He is president of the Douglas County Bar Association and is affiliated with numerous other local organizations.

GALE SHAKES ASHLAND UP

Several Places Damaged and Slight Injuries Result.

ASHLAND, Or., Jan. 12.—(Special.)—High winds today upset fruit stands at the depot, smashed cider jars, blew down a tree at the home of F. G. McWilliams, on Church street, crushed the roof, demolished two chimneys and damaged the dining-room. The Oregon-California Power Company's line in the valley suffered to some extent. A shoe shop in the suburbs turned turtle and there were minor injuries about town.

The gale from the east began two days ago and reached its greatest velocity this morning.

DIPLOMAT DINES SAYRES

President's Sister Also at Luncheon of Ambassador Herrick.

PARIS, Jan. 12.—Francis Bowes Sayre and his wife, formerly Miss Jessie Woodrow Wilson, were committed today at a luncheon given by Ambassador and Mrs. Myron T. Herrick. Mrs. Anna Wilson-Howe, of Philadelphia, a sister of the President, was among the guests.

Mr. and Mrs. Sayre, according to their present plans, will sail for New York on Wednesday on board the Majestic from Cherbourg.

COOLEY BOUND OVER ON MURDER CHARGE

Bail Fixed at \$50,000 for Old Crime.

RELATIVES TO FURNISH BOND

Banker Offered to Pay \$500 for Killing, Says Witness.

EX-CASHIER ON THE STAND

Son of Dead Man Also Testifies at Curry County Hearing—Prisoner Identified as Man Who Received Money After Crime.

GOLDBEACH, Or., Jan. 12.—(Special.)—Following his preliminary hearing today on a charge of having murdered Thomas Van Pelt near Chetco, Curry County, February 19, 1898, A. R. Cooley was bound over to the grand jury with bonds fixed at \$50,000. Cooley's relatives announced that the bonds would be furnished.

Sensational developments marked the hearing. J. W. Higgins, an accountant of Spokane, testified that he was assistant cashier of the Second National Bank of Colfax, Wash., in 1897 and 1898; that in the Fall of 1897 Alfred Coolidge, president of the bank, returned from a trip to Curry County, Or., where his brother had been shot, and said to Higgins: "I will give you or any one \$500 to go down to Oregon and kill off that Van Pelt outfit."

Rifle Kept at Bank.
Higgins said that in the latter part of February, 1898, he received a Portland paper telling of the shooting of Van Pelt and that about March 1, 1898, A. R. Cooley appeared in the bank at Colfax dressed in his mountain clothes, with rifle and cartridge belt.

Coolidge introduced Cooley to Higgins, as Higgins said, and said him \$500 in his presence. "Coolidge then took Cooley to a clothing store and bought him a suit of new clothes," said Higgins. "Cooley spent several days around the bank, leaving his rifle and belt there. Later Alfred Coolidge gave me a package of money and a rifle and asked me to give them to Cooley at an address in Spokane, stating the value of the package and rifle was \$600. He asked me to ship them by express, as he said he did not want Cooley seen carrying them."

Higgins Identifies Man.
Higgins said he asked Coolidge if Cooley was the man who "got his man" in Oregon, to which Coolidge made no reply, and turned away. Higgins positively identified Cooley as the man to whom the money was paid by Coolidge. John Van Pelt, son of the murdered man, was also present.

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STATE HEADS ARRESTED

Application of Eight-Hour Law to Oregon Institutions Being Tested.

SALEM, Or., Jan. 12.—(Special.)—For the first time in the history of the state the Governor, Secretary of State and State Treasurer were nominally arrested today. As members of the State Board of Control they are charged with working men at the state institutions longer than eight hours daily.

Complaints were filed by James Crawford, representing Mr. Hoff, and Cooley, were served on the defendants. John McNary, their attorney, immediately applied to the Supreme Court for a writ of habeas corpus, and the case will be heard probably next week.

BIG JOBS, LOW PAY IS I. W. W. PROSPECT

Second Army Plans to Enter Salem.

STUMP PULLING ONLY CHANGE

Some Refuse to Work and Complaint Made on Food.

GOVERNOR GIVES ALL MEAL

West's Action in Employing 40 Unknown to Others of State Board Causes Discussion and State May Not Give More Aid.

SALEM, Or., Jan. 12.—(Special.)—That the I. W. W. of Portland who plan making the capital of the state their Mecca will find rough sledding in Salem was indicated today when the State Board of Control declared that with the exception of possibly 30 or 40 men, the best that could be done would be for a part of them pulling stumps on state property for three good meals a day and a small wage.

The Board did not even make a definite decision on this proposition, and it may be at a meeting which has been called for tomorrow that the men will be told emphatically that nothing can be done for them.

Another Army Threatens Entry.
The Board had been informed before the meeting that in addition to about 100 men in the city, at least 100, and probably 200 more, had left Portland, headed in this direction.

One of the leaders of the "army" here declared that 500 men would arrive before the end of the week, and that they would insist that they be taken care of.

It became evident today the charge that many of the men do not want work and will not work, was well founded. Governor West without consulting the other members of the Board of Control early in the morning put 40 of the men to work at various state institutions.

Some Refuse to Work.
Ten who were sent to the Feeble-Minded Institute, partook of a good dinner, announced that the proffered accommodations were not satisfactory and marched back to the city. Others sent to the State Fairgrounds took little interest in the work, and evidently were glad when the day's labor was finished.

State Treasurer Kay objected to Governor West sending the men to the state institutions to work without consulting the other members of the Board.

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THIEF SHOTS MAN IN ST. JOHNS HOME

WILLIAM HOSKINS IS FEELED AFTER FIGHT WITH TWO.

In Tussle With Robbers, Stove Is Upset and House Takes Fire. Victim in Hospital.

William Hoskins was shot last night by one of two burglars whom he found in his home on Willamette Boulevard, near Cook street, St. Johns, about 12 o'clock last night, and the Hoskins home was damaged by fire which was started during a hand-to-hand encounter with the robbers. Hoskins is at Good Samaritan Hospital and is said to be seriously hurt.

Immediately on entering his home and finding the intruders, Mr. Hoskins started to give battle. The men soon upset a kerosene stove, which set the house afire.

With the heat of the flames endangering them, one of the burglars drew his revolver and sent a bullet into the left breast of Mr. Hoskins. The robbers then fled.

The police have descriptions of the two men, and continued their search for them at an early hour this morning.

Hoskins is a painter and has a wife and four children.

TRAFFIC WILL BE WARNED

Semaphores Will Signal Approach of Fire Apparatus.

Within two weeks pedestrians on the streets will be warned of the approach of fire apparatus by means of semaphores, resembling those used by railroads. The devices arrived in the city yesterday and will be installed as soon as possible.

The signal blades are six feet long and will be placed on poles 12 feet high. When the engine approaches the blade will drop and display bright red lights and a siren whistle will be put into operation. That will be the signal for vehicles to get out of the way.

The semaphores will be installed first at First and Morrison, Third and Oak, Fifth and Oak, Fourth and Morrison, Union avenue and Russell street, Williams avenue and Russell street, Fourth and Washington.

VOLCANIC WRECKS ISLAND

New Craters Break Following Eruption in New Hebrides.

VICTORIA, Jan. 12.—The entire western part of the Island of Ambrym, New Hebrides, has been devastated by volcanic eruption, according to news brought by the Canadian-Australian liner Makura. Word was received at Sydney prior to the departure of the Makura that on December 6 six new craters were observed in active eruption, and on the following day Mount Minnie collapsed.

Inhabitants of the danger zone were compelled to take refuge in boats, which they had hardly reached when two new craters burst, overwhelming the countryside with lava on its way to the sea. Villages on the southern coast were abandoned. No loss of life was reported.

BAPTISMS HELD IN RIVER

Seventy-One Apostolic Converts Enter Chill Waters With Song.

Seventy-one converts to the Apostolic Faith, which has quarters at Burnside and Front streets, were baptized yesterday afternoon at the foot of Division street in the Willamette River. Mrs. Crawford, the leader in charge of the mission, conducted the services, assisted by Elder Robins and others. All were completely immersed.

Tents had been pitched on the sand beach and were warmed by means of portable oil stoves, but the enthusiastic converts went down into the cold water with songs on their lips.

Besides the converts there was a large attendance of adherents of the faith present.

WOMEN'S RATIO IS BETTER

Registrations for Day Show East Side Maintaining Heavy Lead.

Women voters made a proportional gain yesterday when for the first time the ratio of registration was less than five to one in favor of the men. Yesterday 431 men registered and 102 women. The total to date is 2726 men and 595 women.

The East Side continues to lead, 356 East Side voters registering yesterday, compared with 160 West Side voters and 20 outsiders.

Yesterday's registration of 536 was the largest in a single day.

TIDAL WAVE HITS CALLAO

Earthquake Also Felt at Seaport but No Deaths Reported.

LIMA, Peru, Jan. 12.—The seaport of Callao was inundated today by a tidal wave, accompanied at 1:15 this morning by an earthquake, lasting 55 seconds.

No loss of life is reported.

The naval school at Lapunta and some of the hotels were flooded. No similar inundation has occurred there since 1876.

Forester Starts on Tour

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.—Albert F. Potter, assistant forester of the United States, left here today on a two months' tour of investigation in Western and Southern National forest districts. He will visit Denver, San Francisco and Missoula, Mont., headquarters of the forest service.

SIX-FOR-A-QUARTER CAR RIDE ACT VOID

Federal Court Rules State Sets Rates.

INJUNCTION IS CONTINUED

Recourse Is to Make Appeal to Utilities Body.

CHARTER ALSO AFFECTED

Section Under Which Daily Ordinance Comes Is Invalid, Judge Bean Holds, Citing Conflict With Statute of Oregon.

SALIENT POINTS IN JUDGE BEAN'S RULING

General state law is paramount to city ordinance.

With the public utilities act and the six-for-a-quarter ordinance both in effect, the local traction company could not obey either without violating the other.

A public service corporation, having filed its schedule of rates with the State Railroad Commission, cannot change them without violating the public utilities act.

Federal Courts have jurisdiction to public utility rate cases where the contention is made that a rate sought to be established is confiscatory.

Alterations in public utility rates must be made by the State Railroad Commission.

"Home rule" by cities in the matter of regulation of rates to be charged by public service corporations, as attempted in the Day ordinance providing that the Portland Railway, Light & Power Company should sell six fares for 25 cents within the city, was declared illegal by Robert S. Bean, judge of the United States District Court, in an oral ruling rendered yesterday.

The ruling came on the motion of Lyman E. Latourette, assistant City Attorney, to dismiss the suit brought by the company to restrain the enforcement of the ordinance on the ground that the United States District Court had no jurisdiction.

Court Has Jurisdiction

Judge Bean ruled that his court has the requisite jurisdiction, for the reason that four of the contentions made in the company's bill of complaint, if sustained, would make the enforcement of the ordinance unconstitutional.

These contentions were that the ordinance would be "confiscatory" in its nature; that it would be "an impairment of contract"; an "excessive penalty"; and the "taking of property without due process of law."

The point designated by Judge Bean as the vital one in the case was that section 31 of the City Charter, under which the six-for-a-quarter ordinance was passed, insofar as it gave the City Commission power to regulate rates of public utilities within the City of Portland, was void, for the reason that that section of the charter and the ordinance itself are in conflict with the Oregon public utilities act, giving to the State Railroad Commission power to regulate public service rates in the state, including those within municipal corporations.

City Cannot Assume Power

Judge Bean said that the public utilities act had been passed by the state in the exercise of its governmental powers, and had not only been enacted by the State Legislature, but on referendum by the people of the state, and that notwithstanding their charter the people of the city could not, by the adoption of any ordinance, or in any manner, assume the governmental power already exercised by the state as a whole.

Such ordinances as are strictly municipal in their character, which do not include the regulation of rates, may be enacted by cities, according to Judge Bean's ruling, and such only.

The effect of such an ordinance as the one under consideration, Judge Bean said, would be to allow the people of a community or section to declare void the general laws of the state.

Laws Opposed, Court Says

Judge Bean pointed out that if the state law were obeyed, it would be in violation of the city ordinance, while if the ordinance were obeyed the state law would be violated.

Under its rate schedule, filed with the State Railway Commission, the company's rates are 5 cents for a single fare, or \$2.25 for a ticket-book of 50 fares. Judge Bean held that the traction company could not obey the ordinance and alter these rates without being in violation of the law creating the State Railway Commission and defining its powers.

In the arguments of the case, Attorney Latourette contended that all the traction company would have to do to be in harmony both with the state law and the ordinance would be to file a new schedule of rates with the State Railroad Commission, but this contention was set aside by Judge Bean.

Commission's Right Seen

Judge Bean suggested that if the people of Portland desire to make a complaint against the rates charged by any public service corporation, the

