

PFÄHLER ADMITS DESTROYING BOOKS

Clerk Says Late Bishop Directed Him.

OFFICIALS CONTRADICT CLAIM

Prelate's Aim Was to Have Clear Record, They Say.

DEFENDANT IS BOUND OVER

Bishop Sumner Reads Speeches of Predecessor, Asserting Books Were Always Open to Inspection of Churchmen.

Charles E. Pfähler, confidential secretary to the late Bishop Scadding, admitted the destruction of the records of the Episcopal diocese of Oregon after the death of the bishop, but pleaded that he was justified in so doing because he was carrying out the wishes of the late churchman, when he appeared before District Judge Jones yesterday. He was bound over to the grand jury, on the charge of destroying the books of a corporation.

Combating the contention of attorneys for Mr. Pfähler, men who had been close to Bishop Scadding in his lifetime testified that it had been his intention to leave his affairs in order to Mr. Pfähler and, to this end Mr. Pfähler had been engaged as bookkeeper.

Fears of Criticism Denied.

Intimations that Bishop Scadding did not desire to make public his handling of the sums entrusted to his care, for fear of criticism, were answered by Bishop Walter Taylor Sumner, in reading from convention reports of speeches by the late bishop, and by Rodney L. Gilsan, chancellor of the diocese under Bishop Scadding.

Sleepless Nights Described.

Mr. Pfähler did not take the stand in his own behalf, but rested his case to a large extent on a letter introduced by the prosecution and written to Bishop Sumner by Mr. Pfähler from San Diego March 15, 1915. This communication admitted the destruction of the books "in an unguarded and irresponsible moment." He further said in this letter that he believed he was carrying out the desires of his late employer, but said that if he had it to do over he would not have destroyed the records.

Alleged Boast Is Recalled.

The letter also refers to an alleged boast of the president of the standing committee of the church, Dean H. W. Ramsey, that he was "going to the bottom of things and find out what Scadding was doing with the income of the fund." The writer did not hear such an assertion, but alleged that he was told that it was made.

Rodney L. Gilsan was the first witness to be called. As chancellor of the diocese he was a member of the advisory committee to Bishop Scadding, composed of five others: Dr. S. E. Joseph, Homer D. Rowland, Rev. John H. Simpson, Dean Ramsey and Rev. Barr G. Lee.

He testified that Bishop Scadding, with the aid of his secretary, Mr. Pfähler, in whom he had every confidence, kept a full set of book for the diocese showing the funds in his control and receipts and disbursements. In the interim between the death of Bishop Scadding, in May, 1914, and the qualification of Bishop Sumner in January, 1915, the business of the church was transacted by the standing committee.

Books Not Obtained.

"We felt the necessity of having the reports to date," said Mr. Gilsan, "in shape for the successor to Bishop Scadding, and in a number of meetings the committee called on Mr. Pfähler to give us a full report. We failed to secure a report after repeated requests and promises, and there we called on Mr. Pfähler to give us the books that we might have them audited. He promised, failed to keep his promise, and, at last, ignored our requests and intimidated that the books would be turned over to Bishop Sumner. Mr. Pfähler refused to submit, and there were no means of checking up his correctness.

\$104,000 Is Received.

"The standing committee did receive all of the fund, did it not?" interrogated Attorney E. E. Heckbert, who, with Robert Upton, represented the defendant. "I presume it did," responded Mr. Gilsan, "but there was nothing to guide (Concluded on Page 4, Column 2.)"

CAR MEN MAY FORM MILITIA COMPANIES

CORPORATION GIVES ACTIVE BACKING TO SCHEME.

Rights of Employees Are Assured and Time Will Be Allowed for Military Drill and Camps.

Outlining a general policy in complete accord with the doctrine of military training as the surest means of preparedness for national defense, officials of the Portland Railway, Light & Power Company announced plans, last night, which probably will lead to the formation of a company of National Guardsmen and a division of Naval Militia made up exclusively of this corporation's employes.

"Preparedness" was indorsed in vigorous terms not only by President Franklin T. Griffith, but by General Superintendent G. B. Caldwell, who led the discussion at the mass meeting of the officials and employes at the Hawthorne building.

The local traction company is one of the first great industrial concerns in the city to come out actively in favor of universal military training for its employes. The 500 or more employes present received the various addresses with prolonged applause.

"Our company will do everything in its power to encourage the enlistment of our men in the state military organizations," declared General Superintendent Caldwell. "Our officials desire to assure all our employes who desire to join the Naval Militia or the National Guard that they will be allowed to take whatever prescribed courses of training are necessary, and to engage in the summer training-camp work or naval cruises without in any way being in danger of losing their positions or jeopardizing their rights of seniority. "A definite and clearly stated policy is now being formulated and will soon be announced."

ELEVATOR RUNS AMUCK

City Hall Car Dashes to Top of Shaft and Back, but None Is Hurt.

A runaway elevator in the City Hall yesterday destroyed a cage of stuffed parrots in the city museum and cut a big hole in the floor of the building. James Backenstos, the operator of the car, was badly frightened but otherwise uninjured.

WOMAN EDITOR IS FINED

Miss Prehm Assessed \$5 at Klamath Falls for Attack on Klamath.

KLAMATH FALLS, Or., March 30.—(Special.)—Miss Catherine Prehm, editor of the Merrill Record, who was arrested Monday afternoon here after attempting to honeymoon George E. Bradnack, editor of the Merrill Times, was fined \$5 by Police Judge Leavitt Tuesday for disturbing the peace. The charge was preferred by Patrolman McCarter, who made the arrest, and Mr. Bradnack was subpoenaed as a witness. The trouble arose over a denial of some news published in Miss Prehm's paper by her competitor.

FOES OF DEFENSE MAULED

Students Resent Fellow-Classmen's Interruption of General Wood.

NEW YORK, March 30.—The appearance of Major-General Wood today to speak at a meeting of students at the College of the City of New York on "Preparedness" was the occasion of an attempted demonstration of "anti-militarists" among the students and the rough handling of several who interrupted him.

NEW LIQUOR ATTACK MADE

Sale to Sick Persons Is Called Class Legislation.

TACOMA, Wash., March 30.—(Special.)—The state dry law was attacked from a new angle in a Justice Court today by Charles R. Reeve, attorney for J. W. Twitnew, charged with selling intoxicants.

GRAND FORKS FEARS FLOOD

Merchants and Residents Move From Low Lands.

GRAND FORKS, N. D., March 30.—Flood conditions along the Red River have been made worse by a fall of snow in the last 24 hours and it is feared the floods of the Spring of 1904 may be repeated.

VILLA SLAYS 172 MEN OF GARRISON

Bandit Moving North From Guerrero.

BATTLE IS EXPECTED SOON

Funston Credits Report That Troops Are Closing In.

LEADER MAY BE WOUNDED

Story That Villa Has Been Shot in Leg Reaches Mexican General at Border—Torture of Family of Five Described.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., March 30.—After killing every one of the 172 men in the garrison at Guerrero, Francisco Villa moved northward yesterday and now is somewhere near the headwaters of the Santa Maria River, according to unofficial information secured by General Funston tonight.

At the head of a considerable force Villa was reported to be on the San Geronimo ranch or the Quemada ranch, and troops of both the United States and Mexico were believed to be closing in on him.

Funston Credits Information.

This information was regarded by General Funston and his staff as probably correct. If correct, it appeared probable that soon Villa either will have to face his pursuers in fight or make another break through the tightening line of troops.

Whether his assault on the garrison at Guerrero was the same engagement reported by General Pershing was not known, but it was considered likely, since the action reported by General Pershing occurred March 27 somewhere in that region.

General Pershing has been advised of the report as to Villa's whereabouts, and it is known that the disposition of his troops and that of the Mexican government are such that Villa cannot easily escape without a fight.

American Columns Converging.

American troops are converging in columns from the north, and it was indicated that a part of them had gone so far south that they would be able to join with the Carranza forces in preventing his escape in that direction.

EL PASO, March 30.—General Gavira, Carranza commander at Juarez, said tonight that he had received a message from Madera, Mexico, which says that Villa had been shot in the leg. General Gavira said the message came from what he considered a reliable source, but that he had telegraphed General Bertrant at Madera for confirmation.

FIELD HEADQUARTERS, American Expedition Forces, Colonia Dublan, Chihuahua, March 26.—(By motor truck to Columbus, March 30.)—It has been learned here that Francisco Villa nearly lost his life a few days ago (Concluded on Page 2, Column 1.)

DR. OWEN CALLED BY WHITE TEMPLE

CHURCH UNANIMOUSLY VOTES FOR BROOKLYNITE.

Portland Baptists Expecting to Have Difficulty as East Makes Effort to Retain Pastor.

By a unanimous vote the congregation of the White Temple voted last night to call Dr. William Russell Owen, of Brooklyn, N. Y., to the pastorate of that church. The call was telegraphed to Dr. Owen last night.

The original vote for calling Dr. Owen, which was by ballot, stood 146 votes for, three against and one blank. A motion, however, to make the vote unanimous was then carried.

The question of salary and traveling expenses to be offered Dr. Owen was referred to the advisory board of the church with power to act.

Every effort is being made by Dr. Owen's church in Brooklyn to retain him. Telegrams will be sent to Dr. Owen, urging his acceptance of the call, by the Ladies' society, the Young People's society, the Sabbath School of the White Temple, and by prominent Portland men, including Mayor Albee.

Dr. Owen is pastor of the Hanson Place Baptist Church in Brooklyn, N. Y., and is considered one of the most successful ministers in the East. He has held pastorates in Atlanta, Ga., and Baltimore, Md. He is a graduate of Richmond College and a native of Portsmouth, Va.

MORE WATER DRUNK NOW

Seattle Hotels Complain of Demand Since Prohibition.

SEATTLE, Wash., March 30.—(Special.)—Operation of the prohibition law since January 1 has increased the water bills of the various Seattle hotels from 15 to 35 per cent, according to hotelmen, and much of this increase in consumption is due to service furnished to the public without profit to the hotels.

Three hotel men appeared before the city utilities committee of the Council today and asked that hotels receive a rate of 4 cents per 100 cubic feet instead of 6 cents.

WARSHIPS TO HAVE PLANES

Ways and Storage Room to Be Built on Cruiser West Virginia.

SEATTLE, Wash., March 30.—The Puget Sound Navy-yard has been informed that all large war vessels will carry aeroplanes and a place for launching them.

Orders have been received to build launching ways on the deck of the cruiser West Virginia, including a large crane for handling aeroplanes, and also storage room for five aeroplanes on the deck of the cruiser.

350 ITALIANS CAPTURED

Violent Battle With Austrians Reported Near Gorizia.

BERLIN, March 30.—(By wireless to Tuckerton, N. J.)—A violent battle is in progress at the Gorizia bridgehead on the Italian front, large forces being engaged on both sides. The official Austrian report of today announced the capture of 350 Italians.

In the Dobruja sector there is spirited artillery fighting. (Concluded on Page 3, Column 1.)

BIG GUNS POUND AT VERDUN FORTS

Suburbs Said to Be Already Burning.

GERMAN SUPREMACY COURT LIJANJ

French Cleared From Most of West Bank of Meuse.

ARTILLERY FIRE INTENSE

French Gunners Declared to Be Performing Task Well, Though Exigencies Require Fire to Be More Scattered.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY OF THE CROWN PRINCE BEFORE VERDUN, March 30, via London and Berlin, March 30.—German artillery is playing heavily on the north front of Verdun. Vast clouds of smoke mark the site of the burning suburb behind Forts Belleville and Froidevalle, set afire by the bombardment of these two forts, which bar ingress to the city along the east bank of the Meuse.

Eight miles westward, across the river, a mass of smoke columns, floating like a hazy forest of cypress above Bethincourt, Malancourt and Hill No. 304, testifies to the hail of high-caliber shells which is falling on this northwestern outpost of the French positions.

Next Move Kept in Doubt.

Which of these two points will be the scene of the next phase of the German offensive is a question which doubtless is puzzling the minds of General Joffre and General Petain.

The Associated Press correspondent has made an inspection of the ground gained by the Germans on the Verdun front in the fortnight since his last visit. On the previous occasion the Germans had advanced their lines east of the river to the outer girdle of forts and had carried Douaumont and the adjoining redoubts. The French then retrenched the west bank of the river for a distance of three miles north of the line of Douaumont and were maintaining heavy artillery fire from the heights on this bank against the German flank and rear.

French Under Heavy Fire.

It was necessary to clear the French from this region before the German attack against the fortress could proceed. This has been accomplished. Of the old positions the French now hold only a narrow tongue of land between Dead Man's Hill and Avocourt Wood. This position naturally is strong, with Hill No. 304 as the backbone and the two fortified villages of Malancourt and Bethincourt at the end. But from the intense artillery fire falling upon it today from three sides it appeared that the French retain it only by grace of the Germans and must abandon it whenever an earnest attack is delivered.

French guns are no less active than the German, although their fire is more (Concluded on Page 3, Column 1.)

CO-ED TALKS OUT 2 BAD BANK ROBBERS

CONVERSATION FLOW NEARLY ENSNARES HOLDUP MEN.

Girl Tells How She Refused to Put Up Her Hands While Cashier's Aide Summoned Police.

SEATTLE, Wash., March 30.—(Special.)—How two bold bank robbers, armed with automatic pistols, failed to frighten Miss Faith Cleland, a University of Washington freshman, with their determination to do her "great bodily harm" when they flourished their weapons during the unsuccessful attempt to loot the King County State Bank early yesterday afternoon, was described by her today.

Assistant Cashier William Nordquist was the "hero of the hour" when he dropped behind a counter and pressed an alarm buzzer that summoned the police, but Miss Cleland, who had just entered the bank to cash a check, was the heroine.

When Miss Cleland approached the paying teller's window she saw the larger of the robbers thrust a pistol in the face of the assistant cashier. She turned to confront a second bandit, who pointed a pistol at her.

"Hands up!" demanded the robber of the girl.

"But I don't belong here," expostulated Miss Cleland, refusing to comply with the demand.

"Makes no difference," came the reply, "hands up."

But Miss Cleland just kept up such a continuous flow of conversation that the robbers had to flee to escape capture. And she didn't hold up her hands. She is the daughter of the Rev. J. I. Cleland, of Enumclaw.

\$92,559 TAXES PAID IN DAY

Two Deputy Sheriffs Make 2 Trips to 2 Banks With Cash.

Two thousand people paid \$92,559.25 taxes to Sheriff Hurlburt Wednesday in cash and checks. Of the cash there was some \$30,000. Nearly \$10,000 was in gold. Of silver there was more than \$5000. The balance was in currency.

Two deputy sheriffs made two trips to two banks yesterday morning to deposit this money. Each trip he carried all he could well handle. It was carefully locked and sealed in bags used for transporting money through the streets.

HUMPHREY BOOM STARTED

Virginia Vote Promised Washington Man for Vice-President.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, March 30.—Representative Bacon Slomp, the sole Republican in Congress from Virginia, returning to Washington today from his state convention, launched a Vice-Presidential boom of Representative Humphrey, of Washington.

Virginia's 15 delegates will go to Chicago unpledged, but Mr. Slomp says they will vote for Hughes and Humphrey. He said he would carry out every dollar of taxes due for the first half of the year will run.

INDEX OF TODAY'S NEWS

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GIANT SHIPBUILDING PLANT IS PLANNED

Wooden Vessels to Be Made in Portland.

START MAY BE IN 30 DAYS

Millions of Feet of Oregon Lumber to Be Used.

1500 WILL BE EMPLOYED

Harry P. Spear Arranging Preliminaries—Backers Also to Put Subsidiary Plant at Seattle—Big Future Secured.

A mammoth shipbuilding plant to construct wooden vessels for river service and for transoceanic trade probably will be started in Portland within the next 30 days.

Portland capitalists, together with Spokane, Seattle and Eastern capitalists, are back of the enterprise. They have virtually completed arrangements for perfecting the organization of a corporation that shall engage in the business on a gigantic scale, employing hundreds of men, and utilizing millions of feet of Oregon lumber every year.

Several Sites Offered.

Several available sites for the plant have been offered. As the plant itself as well as the ships are to be built largely of wood, the project will serve as a stimulus to the local lumber industry.

Harry P. Spear, who inspected the construction of the battleship Nebraska, and other vessels for the Government, is arranging the preliminaries for the organization, and may have charge of construction work when the enterprise gets under way. Mr. Spear arrived in Portland yesterday. He is at the Benson Hotel. He has been negotiating with the Chamber of Commerce and various Portland bankers and financiers for the last three months. After conference with some of these men today it is probable that final arrangements will be consummated.

Spokane Capital Aiding.

One of the principal sources of outside interest is A. F. Flewelling, of Spokane, vice-president of the Milwaukee Land Company, a corporation closely connected with the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad.

Others are George Turner, of Spokane; Cyrus Bradley, of Spokane, and H. R. Harriman, of Seattle. It is understood that Mr. Flewelling also represents the Rockefeller interests in the enterprise.

The same sort of capitalists is planning to engage on a more or less extensive scale in the shipbuilding business at Seattle. It is reported, however, that the principal plant will be in Portland. Mr. Flewelling and Mr. Turner are expected in Portland today.

"We expect to go ahead in Portland on a big scale," said Mr. Spear last night.

Great Possibilities Seen.

"The shipbuilding business now offers wonderful possibilities for the investment of capital. It is apparent that the people of Portland appreciate this situation, for they have co-operated in every possible way in our efforts to locate this enterprise in Portland. I am grateful to the Chamber of Commerce, and particularly to W. D. E. Dodson, of the trade and commerce bureau, who is keenly alive to the necessities of a ship-building plant here."

"One attractive feature about this enterprise," explained Mr. Spear, "is the fact that our market is assured. It will be assured for many years to come."

Demand to Be Kept Up.

"We all know that the world's supply of ocean-going vessels is exceedingly limited. So long as the war continues the available supply will continue to decrease and those vessels that remain in the service will be needed to carry war munitions."

"For a long time after the war there will be a steady demand for all kinds of ocean carriers. While the world's preference may be for steel bottoms, it is our plan now to build nothing but wooden vessels. They are just as serviceable as steel for carrying bulky cargoes, but it is next to impossible to get steel. The shipping interests will take any kind of ships that they can get and some of them even prefer wood."

Superior Advantages of Building Wooden Instead of Steel Vessels in Portland are Obvious.

Each ship will take about 2,000,000 feet of lumber. The consumption of Oregon forest products therefore will be limited only by our capacity to build.

1500 to 3000 Men to Be Employed.

"If we engage in the business on the scale that approaches the proportions of the demand for ships, we ought to employ no fewer than 1500 men—most of them skilled mechanics—at our plant. It is possible that we will employ as many as 3000 men."

Mr. Spear says that the activities of the proposed enterprise need not be limited, in time, to the period required to replace the vessels destroyed by the war. After the world resumes its normal status, the Portland plant can engage steadily in construction of both steel and wooden ships. The demand (Concluded on Page 4, Column 1.)

