

LITTLE BURBANCK'S TO WED SECRETARY

Scientist, 67, to Take Bride, 30, Today, He Confesses With Blushes.

ROMANCE BEGUN IN EAST

Young Woman Induced Two Years Ago to Come West From New York, Filling Role of Guardian Spirit to Employer.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Dec. 20.—(Special.)—The Christmas holidays will be a honeymoon for Luther Burbank. The famous plant wizard of Santa Rosa is to be married tomorrow afternoon in San Francisco. His bride will be Miss Elizabeth Waters, his private secretary.

Taxed with the news of his romance in his famous garden at Santa Rosa today, the scientist blushed with characteristic modesty and pleading for as little publicity as possible, admitted that he was on the eve of his wedding.

Bride-to-be is 30. The ceremony will probably be performed in St. John's Episcopal Church at 4 o'clock tomorrow, with the Rev. Ernest Bradley officiating. The bride is a Santa Rosa girl, the daughter of a Santa Rosa church, as the officiating clergyman.

Since she has been at Santa Rosa for two years ago she gave up a position with a New York publishing firm to accept a secretaryship with Burbank, and since then she has occupied the unique role of spokesman and correspondent to the public for the celebrated employer whose innate reticence and complete immersion in his scientific experiments have made him almost a recluse. Her parents reside in Hastings, Mich.

Fluence Is Guardian Spirit. She has been not only his secretary but in Burbank's own words, his "guardian spirit."

Since she has been at Santa Rosa she has assumed charge of his affairs to the extent of receiving all callers, admitting them only if the business seemed to warrant it, in her opinion, keeping callers to a time schedule and shooting off all newspaper men except those of Santa Rosa.

She left Santa Rosa for San Francisco today. The romance began when Mr. Burbank met Miss Waters while visiting the New York publishing house which was handling some of his publications.

Woman Induced to Come West. Mr. Burbank induced Miss Waters to come to California as his secretary. It is a little more than 20 years since Mr. Burbank obtained divorce from his first wife, whom he had married in Denver in 1896. He obtained the decree at Santa Rosa in October, 1896, on the grounds of extreme cruelty. The suit was not contested. He specifically charged his wife had made a physical attack upon him, had threatened his life and had attempted to attack his mother, who was then more than 80 years old.

Mr. Burbank was born in Lancaster, Mass., March 7, 1849, and moved to Santa Rosa in 1875, establishing the world-famous Burbank experimental farms. He has taken rank as one of the world's leading naturalists, and in recent years his position as the greatest creator of new plants has been undisputed.

VILLAGE BEING REBUILT

VITRIMONT, FRANCE, TO RISE WITH AMERICAN HELP.

Ambassador Sharpe Lays Cornerstone of Group of Houses in First of Towns to Be Revived.

VITRIMONT, France, via Paris, Dec. 20.—This village, which, like its neighbor, Gerbeville, was destroyed early in the war, will have the honor of being the first village reconstructed in France and this is due to American enterprise and generosity. The rebuilding is already under way, the cornerstones of the first group of houses having been laid Sunday by the American Ambassador, William Graves Sharpe, who has been invited to participate in the ceremony by those interested in this distinctly American undertaking.

Mrs. William H. Crocker, of San Francisco, who has furnished the funds for reconstruction, is unable to see the practical realization of her work. She was represented by Miss Daisy Polk, of San Francisco. Old men and youths united for military service and being employed on the building operations. Miss Polk's task is not without difficulties, such as obtaining American building contractors. She has had her first strike in the last week, that of masons, who sought higher wages, but she succeeded in settling the matter.

The cornerstones laying was an event in Vitrimont. Girded about the ruins and the foundations of the first structure were the inhabitants and soldiers on leave of absence. The American flag, beside the tri-color of France, was in evidence here and there.

Leon Hobb, Mayor of Vitrimont, and M. Mirman, of Nancy, Prefect of the Department of Meuse-et-Moselle, thanked the American people through the Ambassador for the generous initiative toward the rebuilding of the ruined places of France and aid which the United States had given in so many ways.

Replying, Ambassador Sharpe said it had not only given him much pleasure to see such highly useful work begun by his own countrymen, but those who had been made homeless by the fortunes of war, but he was greatly interested in the possibilities which this work, so auspiciously begun, might lead.

SHERIFFS WANT MORE PAY Washington Offices Also Propose Doubling Term of Office.

LITTLE EGBERT IS BROTHERS' KEEPER AT CHRISTMAS TIME

Five-Year-Old Lad Is Wise One These Days and You Can Be Sure He Is Guarding Well Actions of Younger Boys That Santa May Not Pass By.

BY ADDISON BENNETT. LITTLE 5-year-old Egbert is very, very wise. He is two little brothers younger than himself and he is engaged, at the request of his mother, in keeping them out of mischief. But the youngest is hard for a 5-year-old to manage, and Egbert gives him some good advice, about as follows: "Look here, kid, don't you know Christmas is coming and Santa will soon be around in his automobile with presents for all good kids? Never get since I can remember has he forgotten our house, 'cause we've always been good kids and minded our papa and mamma. But just after last Christmas you eum buttin' in when nobody sent for you. Nobody wanted you and nobody needed you, but to stork got a lame wing and dropped you on us, and us reg'lar kids has got to share up with you same as if you was one of the family. And we'll do it all right, all right if you behave yourself; but if you get gay and cut up so's that Santa hears about it and cuts the hull fambly out next Sunday night—well, if he does I'm goin' to give you a spankin' that'll make you wish you'd been trapped in some yer house nor this."

Times Good in Rabbitville. Sim Dipp, of Rabbitville, has been in the city for a day or two, principally engaged in buying Christmas presents for the Rabbitville folks. Sim says times never were so good in his town. Everybody has money to burn. Most everybody round there either works for or is interested in the coyote farm, where they breed coyotes for the bounty on their skulls and the sale of the pelts. The business was started about fifteen years ago when three mother animals, now there is nearly

BIG HOTEL PLANNED

Oregon May Be Replaced by Magnificent Structure.

CHINESE OWN PROPERTY

Price of \$500,000 Is Named to Benson Interests, and Negotiations End-Improvement Announcement Follows.

A modern hotel, rivaling in magnificence anything of its kind in the country, may eventually replace the present Oregon, at the southwest corner of Stark street and Broadway, according to an announcement made last night.

The present owners of the property have been contemplating the improvement for several years, it is said, and now are in position to proceed with their plans and on conditions justifying the current revival of trade and industry in Portland and other parts of the Northwest make it possible that some big development may be made next year.

The hotel property covers a full quarter block, including the present Oregon, a modern six-story building. It is owned by the Western American Company, of which George D. Benson, Consul at Seattle, and May Back, of Portland, are the owners. It is known that owners of the Benson, adjoining the Oregon, on the north, have been for some time planning to erect at the site for an annex to their own building, but no agreement as to price could be reached.

The Oregon is not for sale at a cent less than \$500,000, is the message that came to the attention of the late night to Arthur O. Jones, assistant cashier of the First National Bank. Mr. Jones is a partner of Mr. Benson, owner of the Oregon Hotel Company, which operates the hotel business.

"I don't want to sell it at all, but that is the lowest price I'll take," he added. Then he explained his ambitions to improve the property with a modern hotel of his own.

This position of the Oregon's owners means definitely that the new Benson annex will be erected at the northeast corner of Broadway and Oak streets, according to the recent announcement made by Mr. Benson's representatives.

MR. HARLEY IS VISITOR

ASTORIA MAYOR-ELECT SAYS INAUGURAL WILL BE GREAT.

Ceremonial Attire Will Be Strictly Barred at New Year's Event. Policies Are Declared.

F. C. Harley, Mayor-elect of Astoria, came to Portland last night to iron out some of his private business and to take public office. He will be inaugurated, with due ceremony, on New Year's day.

"I'm going to quoth the irrepressible Mayor-elect, 'we are going to have the greatest inaugural ball ever pulled off outside of Washington, D. C. Silk stockings, plug hats and full-dress suits will be strictly barred.'"

The municipal dock is being prepared for the big event. A big parade and a round of fireworks will add to the glory of the occasion.

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Plan for Conference to Agree on Arbitration Treaties to Insure Peace Fails.

ARGENTINA IS OPPONENT

Country With Peru as Ally Will Be Pitted Against Brazil, Chile and Uruguay Some Day, Says Santiago Socialist Writer.

SANTIAGO, Chile, Nov. 20.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press.)—The failure of the proposed A. B. C. conference, which was to have met in Rio de Janeiro November 15, has prompted a series of articles through out the entire continent and the echo is yet reverberating.

Dr. Lauro Muller, the Prime Minister of the Brazilian Cabinet, is said to have invited the Chilean and Argentine governments to send delegates to meet then she poked a penny Christmas card in the package and mailed it to somebody and put the good one in her pocket. Then she came in again and tried to have it exchanged for soap and canned salmon, saying the mark had got lost. But I remembered her and queried her little game."

Henry Boyd, member of the executive committee to serve with the officers, John A. Laine, vice-president of the Portland chapter numbers more than 60 and among those who are recently become affiliated with it are O. A. Stevens, naval architect who is superintending the construction of steel ships here and who is former president of the Multnomah Hotel Company, a recent arrival from Minneapolis.

Those who were at the dinner were William Thrall, Dr. J. G. Swenson, George McClure, P. A. Matthews, Ralph Coan, Harry Fogarty, Mason J. Egan, Henry Boyd, Judge Dillard, of St. Helena, O. A. Stevens, "Hap" Miller, J. O. Conville, Winn Elwell, John Clyde, Clyde Collins, Oscar Noren, William Dunlap, John A. Laing, Carlton Spencer, Harry Cotton, Herbert White, William Dunlap and Willard Shaw.

COUNCIL GRANTS RIGHTS

FRANCHISE FOR VANCOUVER LOOP WILL BE ALLOWED.

Pledge Is Given by City's Officials to Interstate Bridge Commission. Common User Agreed On.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 20.—(Special.)—The City Council at a special session today pledged to give a franchise to the Columbia River Interstate Bridge Commission to construct tracks from the bridge up Washington street to Second, and from the bridge to Main on First and up Main to Second.

The Portland Railway, Light & Power Company to extend the track on Main street from Second to Third street and lay a third rail down Third street to the bridge and up to Second, thus making a loop around Third street for both the North Coast Power Company and also the Portland Railway, Light & Power Company.

The Bridge Commission is to treat this proposed track as part of the approach to the bridge and will have authority to grant common-user clauses over it.

This solution apparently is pleasing to all interested in the street companies, and also to the two streetcar companies.

2 'RIDERS' IDENTIFIED

WOMAN SAYS BURKE BROTHERS WERE AMONG MASKED BAND.

Wife and Sister of Accused Men Gets Laugh in Court by Imitating Threat of Mrs. McCormick.

TACOMA, Wash., Dec. 20.—"And she said if she'd had any idea who was there that night she'd have made them lay right down and take their masks off."

Shaking her finger in the face of the jury and repeating the words in the high-pitched tones she said Mrs. William McCormick had used, pretty little auburn-haired Mrs. Enoch Dillard, wife of one of the defendants, daughter of J. N. Howard and sister of Ralph Howard, also defendants in the night-riдер cases before Federal Judge Cushman, produced one of the laughable sensations of the morning.

She was called by the defense in an effort to impeach the testimony of Mrs. McCormick, who appeared for the government and identified two of the night-riders who had taken Mrs. Ross to her house as the Burke brothers, defendants. Mrs. Ross and her son were left at her house on the night of the raid by the so-called night-riders. James Simmons, Deputy Sheriff, and Trenton Tidwell, both defendants in the action of conspiracy, were called to the stand by the defense. Mr. Simmons testified that he was at home the night of the raid, with his son, Gordon, his wife being away at Willapa, where she was teaching.

"Did you know that Mrs. Ross was going to be taken out of the country that night?" he was asked. "I certainly did not, if I had I'd have been there."

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ed all of their business for them, so that the Japanese of today are comparatively new in trade. Their leaders have lately engaged in governmental affairs, and as a result they have one of the best-conducted governments in the world. The Chinese, on the contrary, have been backward in government, but as a trading people are exceedingly reliable."

A special feature of the meeting last night was an address by Captain William H. Hardy, one of the two surviving members of the Perry expedition to Japan in 1854. Captain Hardy related the experiences incurred by the American sailors on their first visit with the Japanese, telling, among other things, how the high officials had enjoyed riding in the miniature railway which had been presented to them by the American Commodore.

Some of Captain Hardy's remarks on the status of American shipping had a telling effect on the audience. His idea of a proper slogan for Portland, as he expressed it, was one that would show Portland's aspirations for a leading activity. "All around the world—Portland" was the contribution that Captain Hardy made to the meeting. A slogan contest conducted by the Chamber of Commerce.

G. O. P. SESSION URGED

MR. HILLIS SAYS REPUBLICAN PARTY LACKS LEADER.

Conference Proposed to Weld All Influences to Work Together for Next Presidential Campaign.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—Declaring that the Republican party lacks a leader, Charles D. Hillis, former chairman of the National Committee, urged at a meeting of the Republican Club here tonight that a conference of men prominent in the party councils be held in Washington within a few months to plan for the next Presidential campaign.

Other speakers urged the need of organization. Senator John W. Weeks, of Massachusetts, asserted a man of experience, trained in the party councils, should be made National Chairman. He suggested that the various state chairmen meet and elect one of their members to the chairmanship. Senator Weeks contended the present method of conducting campaigns was both wasteful and inefficient. He proposed a "party machine."

The National, Congressional and Senatorial committees should work together and not separately, he said, and funds should be collected by a central bureau.

INTER-CITY LINE ASKED

GRAY'S AND WILLAPA HARBORS ARE SEEKING RAILROAD.

Streetcar Company and O. W. R. & N. Are Urged to Build Route That Will Shorten Travel Time.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Dec. 20.—(Special.)—The construction of a railroad or interurban trolley line between Grays Harbor and Willapa Harbor will be urged in petitions soon to be forwarded by the Grays Harbor Realty Association to officials of the O. W. R. & N. Railroad and of the Grays Harbor Railway & Light Company.

The construction of such a road would shorten the time of travel between the two cities of the two harbors within 30 to 35 miles of each other, whereas at present nearly a hundred miles of railroad traveling is necessary in going from Raymond and South Bend to Aberdeen or Hoquiam.

Favorable action is expected by Harbor business men because they believe the road would be a paying one. President Sanderson, of the Grays Harbor Railway & Light Company, when he was here a year ago from New York, said his company had been seriously considering the twin harbor road.

The O. W. R. & N. already has built a logging road into the timber district of the North River Valley and an extension of this road would carry it to Willapa Harbor.

MOOSE GUESTS VICTIMS OF WEDDING HOAX.

Percy Proctor, Lodge Secretary, Becomes 'Bride'—Ladies' Night Through Then Is Disillusioned.

APPROXIMATELY 1000 members of the Moose Lodge and their friends were victims of a hoax last night when a wedding was held in Moose Hall, in the Royal building. The big crowd present expected to see a real wedding; instead, it was an imitation affair, although this was not discovered until after the knot was tied.

J. D. M. Crockett, 3108 Sixty-second street, Southeast, was the bridegroom, and Percy Proctor, secretary of the Moose Lodge, was disguised as the bride. George M. Orton gave the supposed bride away, and Dr. Theodore

Fessler was best man. Robert C. Smith, 250 East Forty-fourth street, performed the ceremony. The crowded room, thought it was announced, a regular wedding, and the audience was breathless as the vows were spoken. The ceremony was impressive, the full service being read as the pair stood under a big red bell, surrounded by palms and potted plants. But when the bride's veil was lifted at the conclusion of the ceremony, the illusion was dispelled and all present realized they were victims of a joke. It was only a stunt to heighten the entertainment of the evening.

It was ladies' night at Moose Hall, and after the "wedding" dancing, music, cards and refreshments were enjoyed.

Yes! We Carry, Sell and Recommend Waterman Fountain Pens The Pen That Always Pleases Expert Pen Man Waits on You Ten Days' Trial Free WOODARD, CLARKE & CO. Wood-Lark Building, Alder St. at West Park

My Standby for Christmas Waterman's Ideal Fountain Pen A necessity to business men. A convenience to the housewife. An aid to young men and women in school or college. A comfort to the old folks. A convenience for everyone. An economy always. One Waterman's Ideal lasts for years. In many sizes and several types. To fit every hand. Prices \$2.50 to \$150.00. Sold at the Best Stores. Illustrated folder on request. Buy the genuine Waterman's Ideal. L. E. Waterman Company, New York, N. Y.

For Sale By Gill's THE J. K. GILL CO. Booksellers, Stationers and Complete Office Outfitters—THIRD & ALDER STS.

Norwegian Steamer Sunk. LONDON, Dec. 20.—Lloyd's reports the Norwegian steamer Prima, of 1133 tons register, sunk. Fruit Embargo Placed. SPOKANE, Wash., Dec. 20.—The Great Northern Railroad today declared an embargo on fruit shipments to points east of Spokane because of the cold weather in Montana and North Dakota. Passenger trains from the East were late today because of the cold and snow East. Some of the overland trains arrived here as much as eight hours late.

HOLIDAY EXCURSIONS TO CALIFORNIA North Bank Rail and Ocean Route. Round Trip to San Francisco, including Berth, Meals and Extras \$26.70 FIRST CLASS. S. S. Northern Pacific Sails Dec. 23, 28, Lv. S. F. Jan. 4, 9, 13, 18, 23, 27. LOS ANGELES Round Trip—\$42.50 Selling dates: From S. P. S. stations December 23 and 28 and Oregon Electric stations Dec. 22, 23, 27 and 28. Return limit Jan. 15, 1917. Stopovers allowed. Attractions in California—U. of O. and U. of P. football and Tournament of Roses in Pasadena Jan. 1; New Year's celebration in San Francisco. NORTH BANK TICKET OFFICE—5th and Stark. Phones: Broadway 920, A 671.

HOW TO DO IT—Smear the affected part with Cuticura Ointment and let it remain five minutes. Wash off with Cuticura Soap and hot water, bathing some minutes. Absolutely nothing better. Sample Each Free With Mail. With 22-p. book on the skin. Address post-paid: "Cuticura, Dept. 19, Boston." Sold everywhere.