

## CRAZED MAN KILLS SON, WOUNDS WIFE

### Murderer Fires His Home, Then Commits Suicide.

## SPOUSE AND CHILD MAY DIE

### Neighbors Hear Struggle and Try in Vain to Give Aid.

## DOORS TO HOUSE LOCKED

### Former Captain in Minnesota Militia Runs Amuck While Tiny Children Watch, Terrified.

R. W. Stafford Jr., ex-captain in the Minnesota state guard, and son of a pioneer business man of Barnum, Minn., killed his 1-year-old son, Walter, and probably fatally injured his wife and a 3-year-old son, Wirt Stafford, by attacking them with a hatchet about 1 P. M. yesterday, and then committed suicide by cutting his own throat after setting fire to the family home at 1255 Front street.

The family came to Portland from Matowa, Minn., three months ago, at the request of Ralph Hahn, vice-president and general manager of the Stealing Food Products company, who had hired Mr. Stafford as superintendent of the company's plant in South Portland.

### Three Children Escape.

The authorities say temporary insanity is the only explanation of the tragedy, inasmuch as all persons interviewed by police say Mr. Stafford had not quarreled with his family. He suddenly left his work shortly before 2 o'clock, walked to his home, which was close by, and apparently attempted to murder his whole family. Three children escaped.

Mr. Stafford and Mr. Hahn had lunch together, and Mr. Stafford had returned to work. Employees of the company say he acted strangely. Suddenly he left his desk unlocked, and rushed from the building, reaching his home, he sat on the front steps with his face in his hands for a few moments, refusing to play with the children.

Richard Stafford, 11, oldest son of the maniac, told police that the family was surprised at the father's surliness, inasmuch as he usually romped with the children as soon as he reached home.

### Youngsters See Attack.

The children went away to play alone, with the exception of Wirt, the baby, whom Mrs. Stafford carried inside the house for a nap. Richard was the first to hear the struggle inside. With his brothers and sisters at his heels, he ran up the flight of steps to the front door, and entered the home.

Mrs. Stafford was lying on a bed with the baby in her arms. The father, raging with fury, had a hatchet in his hand, and as the terror-stricken youngsters stared, he struck her on the head. The two girls fled. Richard seized Wirt and pulled him from the room. The father gave chase, and seizing Wirt by the collar, he dragged the child inside and struck him several blows on the head with the hatchet.

### House Set Ablaze.

Meantime neighbors had heard the commotion and telephoned for the police. Some tried to get into the house, but the doors were locked. Motorcycle Patrolmen Gouldstone and Schaeffer arrived.

## 12 MICHIGAN TOWNS THREATENED BY FIRE

## CONCILIATORS ARE CALLED IN STRIKE

### Mayor Asks State Board to Act in Phone Trouble.

## FIRST SESSIONS DUE TODAY

### 600 Telephone Girls Are Out in Portland Exchange

## ALL REPAIR MEN OUT

### Company Officials' Service Is Being Kept

## DAV'S DEVELOPMENTS IN TELEPHONE STRIKE

Mayor Baker calls state board of conciliation to investigate strike in Portland, where 600 telephone girls and all electrical workers of telephone company are reported out.

Strikers and company officials talk at arbitration, both saying they are confident of winning.

In Oregon approximately 700 electrical workers employed by Pacific States Telephone company are idle.

Throughout Oregon, outside of Portland, telephone operators appear to have remained at work.

In Washington operators and electrical workers are reported out in Seattle. At Birmingham all linemen are out. At Spokane 30 linemen and repairmen are out. At Tacoma 48 electrical workers are on strike.

In California strike conditions are unchanged.

## MURDER CASE SUSPECTED

### Traces of Crime Found Near Medford Burglar's Quarters.

MEDFORD, Or., July 1.—(Special.)—Sheriff Terrill announced today that a murder case may grow out of the recent finding of plunder taken by crackmen from the Howers jewelry store of Gold Hill. The stolen booty amounting to several hundred dollars was found near the Rogue river and nearby were blood-stained rags, apparently parts of a man's clothing. The supposition is the burglars quarreled over the plunder, during which one of them was killed and his body was dragged to the river, weighted and thrown in. Grappling hooks have been sent for and the river will be dragged in that vicinity tomorrow.

## ARMY AIRPLANE DAMAGED

### San Diego-San Francisco Flyer in Smash-Up at Stockton.

STOCKTON, Cal., July 1.—Two army airplanes flying from Rockwell field, near Diego, to San Francisco, landed here this morning. One of the ships, piloted by Lieutenant C. A. Palmer, was damaged by running into a ditch at the lower end of the field, but no one was hurt.

The running gear was torn off, one of the wings was broken and the propeller was smashed. Lieutenant C. A. Palmer left in the other plane for Davis field, Sacramento, to secure new parts. They expected to resume the flight by tonight.

## AMERICANS BUY JEWELS

### English Empty Caskets to Purchase New Victory Loan.

LONDON, July 1.—(Special Cable.)—Big prices were realized at a jewel sale at Christie's, \$200,000 being paid for a rope of 315 beautiful pearls, which was offered merely as "the property of a lady." The day's sale altogether realized \$500,000.

There can be no doubt that many owners are emptying their caskets in order to invest the proceeds in the Victory loan, and it is certain, says the Daily Telegraph, that America is claiming most of Europe's precious treasures.

## FIRST ARRESTS REPORTED

### Kansas City Takes Lead in Violation of Prohibition Law.

KANSAS CITY, July 1.—Two bartenders were arrested here late today on orders of Francis M. Wilson, United States attorney, charged with selling beer. They were arraigned before United States Commissioner Harry L. Arnold and entered pleas of guilty. Bonds were fixed at \$500.

The arrests are believed to be the first of the kind in the United States, said District Attorney Wilson.

## YOUNG FARMER FOUND DEAD

### Bullet Wound and Rifle Indicate Murder or Suicide.

SPOKANE, July 1.—John Hyslop, a young farmer, was found dead this morning at his home near Reardan, in this county with a bullet wound through the back of his head. A small rifle lay near by.

Sheriff G. L. Reid this afternoon declared he believed Hyslop was murdered or that the wound was self-inflicted.

## AGED ARMY OFFICER DEAD

### Brigadier-General Rawles Passes Away at San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 1.—Brigadier-General Beckman Rawles, U. S. A., retired, died at his home here today after six months' illness. He would have been 89 years old next month.

He was said to have been one of the two remaining graduates of the class of 1881 of the West Point Military academy.

## AGED COUPLE ALLEGED DUPES OF EX-CONVICT

### John Connors, Recently Paroled, Sought by Police.

## MONSTER AIRSHIP OFF FOR AMERICA

### Big British Dirigible R-34 Headed Westward.

## WEATHER CONDITIONS GOOD

### Trip Expected to Be Made in 60 to 70 Hours.

## CRAFT LARGEST OF KIND

### First Lighter-than-Air Machine to Attempt Ocean Flight Measures 634 Feet in Length.

SALEM, Or., July 1.—(Special.)—John Connors, a state prison convict, who was recently paroled through the intervention of District Attorney Evans of Portland, is sought by police officials throughout the state as the result of disclosures made to Governor Olcott yesterday by Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Branson, parents of William Branson, who is serving a life sentence at the penitentiary for the murder of William Booth in Yamhill county.

Connors, according to information received tonight, went to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Branson, near McMinnville, last month, and guaranteed to procure a parole for their son for a sum said to have been \$500.

The paroled convict, it is said, told the couple that for this sum of money he could hire a Portland attorney who would guarantee to procure their son's release. Not having the funds, it is said that Mrs. Branson believed the story told to her by Connors and borrowed the money. She is said to have made one payment June 17 and the final payment June 25.

According to information gained tonight, Mr. and Mrs. Branson came to Salem Monday of this week, expecting to procure their son's release and take him home with them. They went to the governor's office, where they told the story implicating Connors, and turned over to the governor the two receipts which Connors is said to have given to them.

Governor Olcott informed the aged couple that they had been duped, and it is said they were nearly heart-broken when they learned that the money they had borrowed had been lost, and that there was no possibility of procuring the release of their son.

As soon as he learned that Connors had duped the Bransons, the governor sent an order for his arrest broadcast throughout the state.

Branson was received at the penitentiary from Yamhill county on March 2, 1917, having been convicted of the murder of William Booth near Willamina. He is serving a life sentence.

Connors is the convict who is alleged to have been back of the series of charges and counter-charges during the state prison parole scandal at the penitentiary last fall. He was one of the important witnesses appearing before the several investigating boards during the time this investigation was under way. It is believed here that Connors has fled the state, although a sharp watch is being maintained for him in Portland.

Mr. and Mrs. Branson, it is said, spent their last cent in the defense of their son during his two trials for the Booth murder, and it was said here that they could ill afford to lose the money which they assert they turned over to Connors.

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### First Lighter-than-Air Machine to Attempt Ocean Flight Measures 634 Feet in Length.

EAST FORTUNE, Scotland, Wednesday, July 2.—(By the Associated Press.)—The dirigible R-34 started on its voyage to America at 1:45 this morning. Weather conditions here were favorable for the beginning of the flight.

LONDON, July 2.—The air ministry announces that the R-34 left the ground at 1:45 Greenwich time, on her trans-Atlantic flight.

The giant British dirigible R-34 is the first lighter-than-air machine to attempt a trans-Atlantic flight. The dirigible, the largest of its kind in the world, measures 634 feet from nose to stern, and carries three boats below the gas bag. She has a gas capacity of 12,000,000 cubic feet, and is commanded by Major G. H. Scott, of the royal air force.

The craft is equipped with a wireless system as powerful as that of the great ocean liners. Among the crew of 23 men is Lieutenant-Commander Zachary Lansdowne, staff commander of the American naval air force in France, who is making the voyage as representative of the United States navy.

It has been estimated that the R-34 will cross the Atlantic in from 60 to 70 hours under favorable weather conditions. Announcement has been made, however, that no attempt will be made to establish a time record for the crossing, the comfort of the dirigible's crew being given first consideration.

With favorable weather the R-34 is expected to parallel the route of the northern steamship lanes, but should adverse weather conditions be encountered, she probably will take the southern course, passing over or near the Azores.

The landing will be made at Roosevelt field, Mineola, Long Island. Under present plans the giant airship will only make a short stay before starting on her return voyage because of the fact that there is no hangar at Roosevelt field or elsewhere capable of housing the machine. Accommodations for

## U. S. WARNS RUSSIANS REPRISALS WON'T DO

### Soviet Government is Given Notice to Be Good.

## FIGHTERS ALL SET FOR GREAT BATTLE

### Willard, Sure of Victory, Works Easily.

## CONDITION FINE, SAYS DOCTOR

### Champion, in Excellent Spirits, Reports Grind Is Easy.

## DEMPEY'S BACKERS MANY

### Promoter Predicts Seat Sales Will Total \$1,000,000; Toledo Is Thronged With Fans.

WASHINGTON, July 1.—The Russian soviet government was warned by the United States today in a message sent through the American legation at Stockholm that reprisals against American citizens in Russia would arouse intense sentiment in the United States against the soviet heads.

The warning was contained in a cablegram sent by acting Secretary of State Phillips in reply to a protest from Soviet Foreign Minister Tchitcherin against the reported arrest of L. A. C. K. Martens, the soviet representative in New York. The protest intimated that reprisals might be taken against Americans in Russia.

## ADMIRAL RODMAN COMING

### Command of Fleet Assigned to Pacific Formally Assumed.

## WESTERNERS TO GET POSTS

### Nominations Sent to Senate by President Wilson.

## CONSUL SHOT AT, REPORT

### Costa Rica Policemen Fire on Benjamin Chase, Say Passengers.

## FALL CAUSES BLINDNESS

### Myrtle Creek Woman on Stairway Suffers Injury to Spine.

WASHINGTON, July 1.—These nominations by President Wilson were sent to the senate today:

To be registers of land offices—Miss Effie A. Fisher, Juneau, Alaska; Gould B. Blakeley, Salt Lake City, Utah.

To be receivers of public monies—Frank E. Stearns, Helena, Mont.; Mathias N. Pagley, Val. Co., Idaho; J. Jex, Salt Lake City, Utah; Claude E. Rush, Yakima, Wash., and William E. Page, Spokane, Wash.

NEW YORK, July 1.—Reports that three shots had been fired June 22 at Benjamin F. Chase, United States consul at Costa Rica, by government policemen, were brought here today by passengers on the steamship Tivis from Port Limon.

One of the passengers said Consul Chase told him of the incident. One of the bullets was said to have passed through Mr. Chase's clothing.

## WHERE'S THE TRAFFIC COP?



## COME RUNNING, CHILDREN, COME RUNNING!

It is with distinct pleasure that The Oregonian announces the advent of its new colored supplement for the kiddies and the fun-loving grown-ups, which is to appear in the coming Sunday issue. Never has such a galaxy of joy been assembled heretofore, pranking about in bright colors and happiness. Here are some of the folks you'll meet in the splendid run section of the big Sunday paper.

The Gumps—Min and Andy and little Chester, making the most of life and having a good time even when things go wrong.

Mamma's Angel Child—Dear little, bad little Esther, that lovable lassie who is always finding trouble and making her gentle mother no end of trouble.

Josephus Bugle—Another funny family, with lots of laughable mishaps and merry climaxes.

Harold Teen—A series that depicts Harold's adventures a-woolng, with humor in every stroke of the crayon.

Bobby Make-Believe—You all know Bobby and his agile imagination. Nuff sed.

Mr. Bones—A boy's dog and the delightful predicaments that he and his master frolic through.

Dolls of All Nations—Colored cut-outs, just made for the seasons, or little folk of every land, in their own costumes.

Beginning next Sunday, the new colored supplement will add its excellence to the offering that enters thousands upon thousands of homes.

## INDEX OF TODAY'S NEWS

- The Weather. YESTERDAY'S—Maximum temperature, 76 degrees; minimum, 50 degrees. TODAY'S—Fair; moderate westerly winds.
- Foreign. Council of five to direct peace affairs. Page 4. British airship R-34 leaves Scottish port for America. Page 1. Germany condemned by mankind, says Maximilian Harden. Page 4.
- National. United States warns Russian soviet against taking reprisals. Page 1. Proposed improvement of Tualatin river held too costly. Page 5. Congress's action assures continued shipping activity. Page 2. Confusion over status of beer steadily increasing. Page 3. Blockades in congress halt action on appropriation bills. Page 3.
- Domestic. Naval dirigible explodes near Baltimore, burning spectators. Page 2. Dezen Michigan towns threatened with destruction from forest fire. Page 1.
- Pacific Northwest. Aged couple are alleged dupes of John Connors, ex-convict. Page 1. Governor not to resign as secretary of state. Page 6. Blake-Compton company subject of paving inquiry at Salem. Page 6.
- Sport. Vanguard of fight fans pitch tennis at Toledo. Page 12. Beavers en route to Portland to play Angels. Page 13. Fighters at Toledo ready for battle. Page 1. Multnomah club wins Pacific coast track and field championships. Page 13.
- Commercial and Marine. Higher barley prices on coast are expected. Page 21. Specialties are strong and investment stocks irregular in Wall street. Page 21. Corn market strengthened at Chicago by record hog quotations. Page 21. Foundation company of Portland awarded Astoria pier contract. Page 20. Record repairs being made on tanker Oloum. Page 20.
- Portland and Vicinity. State board of conciliation called by Mayor Baker in 'phone strike. Page 1. Craze man kills son and self, wounds wife and second boy. Page 1. Suffragists honor pioneer of cause at luncheon. Page 14. Lieutenant Davis of Pasadena wears honors from three countries. Page 9. Democratic hosts hold 1920 pow wow. Page 10. Attorney George A. Hall grilled on stand in alleged conspiracy case. Page 7. Substitute school teacher wins suit for salary. Page 4. Weather report data and forecast. Page 20.

## STORY OF FIGHT TO BE MEGAPHONED IN FRONT OF THE OREGONIAN BUILDING

JULY 4.

Hot off the wires of the Associated Press, the story of the world's championship fight at Toledo next Friday will be given to fans and others interested as the battle progresses, by a megaphone man in front of the Oregonian building, Sixth and Alder streets. The big battle is scheduled to start at 3 o'clock, Toledo time, which is 1 o'clock Portland time. But there will be preliminary announcements of interest, which will probably begin coming in by 12:30, so at 12:30 the Oregonian megaphone man will be on hand.

All who want the story of the fight quickly, fully and accurately told may receive that service freely by standing at the Sixth and Alder corner from 12:30 P. M. for an hour or so.