

ALLEGED CHAMPION BORROWER IS JAILED

Portland and Seattle Operations Are Reported.

\$50,000 PUT AS AMOUNT

J. M. Curtis Is Accused of Using Mails to Defraud—Royal Life Is Declared Led.

SEATTLE, Wash., Nov. 25.—(Special.)—Arrest of the champion borrower in any class, according to federal officers, was made yesterday at Shreveport, La., by postoffice inspectors, who trailed him there from Seattle. Officers said they knew he borrowed \$50,000 in Seattle, Portland and other coast cities and Minneapolis. "And how much more he got the heavens only know," said postoffice agents here today.

Victims of his borrowing capacities include bankers and capitalists, who will not allow their names to be used in connection with the charges brought against him, officers said. On his borrowed money, inspectors said this morning, he lived in style befitting a king in Seattle, Everett and other northwest cities in 1918 and 1919.

He is J. M. Curtis, late of Seattle, Everett and Montana. He was indicted secretly in Seattle by the federal grand jury, now in recess, at its sessions two weeks ago. When arrested he was drilling an oil well in Louisiana, officers said, on borrowed money, although charges against him make no mention of his present activities.

Borrower's Trail Followed.
J. S. Swenson, postoffice inspector for Seattle, has been checking Curtis' borrowings since last spring. Immediately after the secret indictment was returned S. T. Pinkham, field inspector for the postoffice department, started from Seattle on the alleged borrower's trail. Yesterday Pinkham found him at Shreveport. His bail was fixed at \$5000, but he will now be taken before a United States commissioner in Louisiana.

The charge in the federal indictment returned here was use of United States mails to defraud. Had he not used the mails, officers said, to make alleged fraudulent representations, Curtis might have remained free indefinitely.

He sold half interests and mortgages on a Montana wheat ranch to men in Seattle, Portland and San Francisco, said the federal officers. He borrowed to build houses for notorious laborers on the ranch, to buy machinery, and sold and mortgaged here and there machinery which he had to different purchasers, according to the charges made here. Mortgages on the ranch were nothing to Curtis, officers allege, and he issued them here and there as money appeared.

Alleged Borrowings Listed.
Curtis is alleged to have borrowed \$10,000 from F. G. Dewar in Seattle in 1918. He borrowed \$4000 from J. S. Thurston of Minneapolis, \$10,000 from the East Hennepin State bank of Minneapolis and the bank's president, J. H. Hebeck, officers said. He obtained \$10,200 from John Drake of San Francisco through fraudulent representations, it was alleged. He borrowed \$7000 from Alfred Kennedy of Seattle in 1919. It was alleged. He obtained \$1000 from O. E. Fischer of Portland, according to the federal allegations.

Before these affairs, officers said, Curtis obtained \$7000 from an Everett capitalist with which to purchase automobiles. The automobiles were purchased and sold in Everett there. Curtis, officers said, took them out of a warehouse in Everett and sold them without the knowledge of the financier. The Everett capitalist refused to have his name used and desired to let the matter drop rather than receive any publicity in connection with the arrest. No charge of this alleged transaction, officers said, was incorporated in the indictment, as the mails were not used. Curtis conducted his business there in person.

U. S. FORCES BAR CABLE

REINFORCEMENTS SENT FROM KEY WEST TO MIAMI.

Two Sub-Chasers Guard Causeway. Searchlights Play on Western Union Barge.

MIAMI, Fla., Nov. 25.—Additional reinforcements arrived here from Key West early today to aid the crew of sub-chaser 154 in guarding employees of the Western Union Telegraph company and to prevent them from connecting the cable across Biscayne bay between Miami and Miami Beach. The attempt to connect the cable on the causeway between Miami and Miami Beach was followed by the arrival here during the night of a second sub-chaser from Key West. The crews from the two naval vessels were patrolling the million-dollar causeway today. The employees of the telegraph company were allowed to return to Miami late yesterday, but all night powerful searchlights from the sub-chaser 154 played on the cable barge and the windvats, which were guarded by armed seamen.

COLLEGE HEADS TO MEET

PRESIDENTS OF INDEPENDENT INSTITUTIONS TO CONVENE.

Conference of Oregon Educators Opens Today at Reed and Will Last Balance of Week.

PACIFIC UNIVERSITY, Forest Grove, Or., Nov. 25.—(Special.)—President R. F. Clark, who is president of the Independent College Presidents' association of Oregon, announces that association will meet during the Thanksgiving recess at Reed college. This association is composed of Albany college, Eugene Bible university, McMinnville college, Pacific college, Pacific university, Philomath college, Reed college and Willamette university, and each college entertains in turn.

The other officers of the association are: Vice-President, President E. C. Sanderson, Eugene Bible university; secretary, Professor F. G. Franklin, Willamette university,

and member state board of standardization, President L. W. Riley, McMinnville college. The programme, which starts at 2 o'clock tomorrow afternoon, includes addresses by President Epley of Philomath college, and Professor Myers of Eugene Bible university; Lewis of Pacific college, and Matthews of Willamette university. At 7 P. M. the delegates are to be guests of the faculty of Reed college for dinner. Saturday morning the speakers will be Professor Lee of Albany, and Professor Schiavich of McMinnville. A departure from the so-called "strict curriculum" will be discussed under the subject "Vocational Guidance." This subject will be treated by Professors Strong of Pacific university, Knowlton and Bassett of Reed college.

STUDENT IN AUTO DROWNS

ELMER RILEY OF TACOMA IS PINNED IN DITCH.

Four Men and Two Women Are in Machine at Time of Crash. Driver Seriously Injured.

TACOMA, Wash., Nov. 25.—Elmer Riley, 28, of Tacoma, one of a party of University of Washington students bound from Seattle to Olympia to spend Thanksgiving, was drowned in an automobile accident six miles from here today. Riley was an overseas veteran, a law student at the university and a wrestling instructor at the Seattle Y. M. C. A.

The car, containing four men and two women and driven by E. Graham of Seattle, skidded from the highway into a ditch containing two feet of water. Riley was pinned down under the water and Graham was in a serious condition from water on his lungs.

The other occupants of the car were A. W. Newman, Mrs. G. E. Graham, H. E. Mandeville and Miss Marion Keith, all of Seattle and all University of Washington students except Mrs. Graham. The accident occurred when the car skidded in an attempt to turn out for another automobile. With the occupants held in by the curtains, the car overturned into a ditch filled with water from last night's rain. The occupants who were not rendered unconscious were unable to extricate themselves. Passing motorists with ropes righted the machine and sent the injured here on an interurban trolley car.

COTTON WAGE CUT VOTED

600 WORKERS AFFECTED BY 15 PER CENT REDUCTION.

Scale Is Slightly More Favorable to Employes Than Original One Considered Recently.

DANVILLE, Va., Nov. 25.—(Special.)—The house of representatives of the school held congress, representing 800 cotton mill workers, tonight voted on the wage reduction bill which has been pending for more than two weeks. The members, 75 to 5, adopted a wage reduction measure, but it was not the original bill which was reported favorably by a special committee. An amendment was offered from the floor and in this shape it was passed following brief debate.

Less than five speeches against the bill were made. The original wage reduction bill provided for a cut of 25 per cent on the base rate of pay to the 600 operatives. The amendment which carried tonight provides for the complete elimination of the 10 per cent bonus and a reduction of 15 per cent on the base rate of pay. This bill is slightly more favorable to the employes, for it will give them more working days than the original bill would. The senate will meet tomorrow night and, according to Leonard E. Bland, its president, passage of the wage cut bill in its amended form is assured.

SPAIN TO RAISE TARIFFS

Immediate Action Planned to Increase Luxury Articles.

MADRID, Nov. 25.—The minister of finance today declared his intention of taking immediate action concerning an increase in customs tariffs on articles of luxury, probably by means of a royal decree, in order to restore the balance of trade, which at present is unfavorable.

MADRID, Nov. 25.—A dispatch from Saragossa says the government is taking energetic measures to end the general strike there. The government has threatened the arrest of the directors of the Saragossa sugar refineries if the establishments are not opened by Friday.

JAPANESE CONSUL FLEES

Chinese Bandits Begin Reprisals for Punitive Raids.

TOKIO, Nov. 25.—(By the Associated Press.)—Reports today from Seoul, Korea, state that the Japanese consul at Chang Te, Manchuria, has fled to Khabarovsk with his family. The Japanese consul at Chang Te, owing to the presence of 800 Chinese bandits. The Chinese inhabitants of Chang Te, according to reports, declare the unrest in the region is due to the punitive operations of the Japanese force which recently entered Chinese territory to operate against Chinese bandits. They threaten a massacre of the Japanese residents as a retaliatory measure.

Prisoners Spend Day Home.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Nov. 25.—Two prisoners at the state penitentiary today were granted furloughs to spend Thanksgiving day with their families, and 18 others were released.



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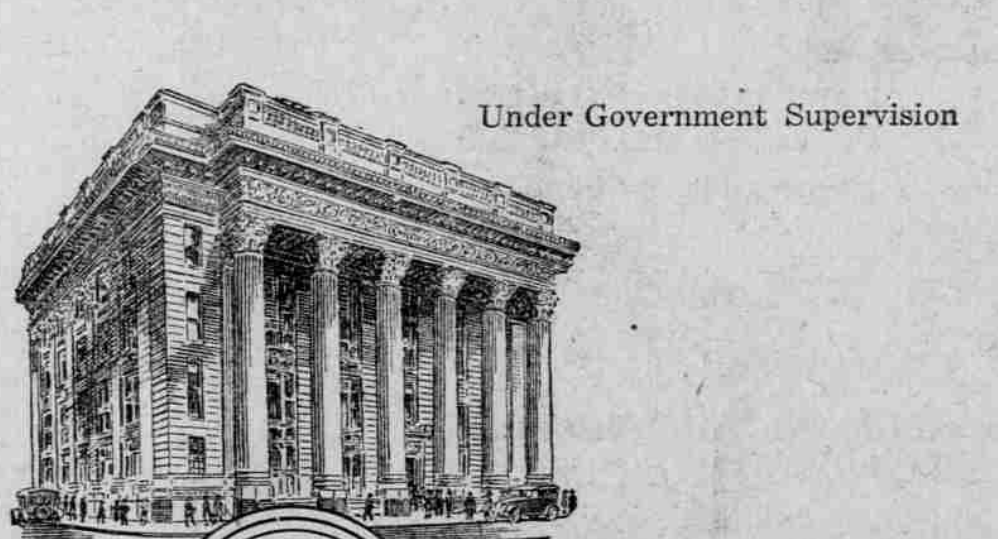
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on pardons granted by Governor Brough. past exalted rulers of the lodge, will be held at Christensen's hall Monday night.
Elks to Dance Monday. A dance in honor of Dr. Ben L. Norden, exalted ruler of Portland lodge, No. 142, B. P. O. Elks, and all publican leader of the house, suffered only slight injury in his fall at his home here Tuesday, it was said today at his office. The majority leader, his secretary said, would be back at his office tomorrow.
Mondell's Injury Slight. WASHINGTON, Nov. 25.—Representative Mondell of Wyoming, re- Read The Oregonian classified ad.



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Crepe de Chine and Georgettes, values to \$15, at **\$6.95**

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