

RECORD OF VIOLENT DEATHS ADVOCATED

Police Want Law Requiring Doctors to Report.

PROBE IS SUGGESTED

Protection at Present Declared Afforded Some Physicians in Illegal Practices.

Public and open investigation of all sudden and violent deaths and the keeping of proper records of such events by public officers were advocated yesterday by the police as a result of disclosures by Dr. Earl Smith, county coroner, in which he admitted that he had assisted certain physicians in suppressing news of the deaths of patients in their offices.

Such practices, officials hold, might provide protection not only for legitimate physicians who meet with misfortune while operating on patients, but also for doctors whose practices are confined chiefly to illegal operations. There is no suggestion or suspicion on the part of anyone that any crime or suspicious circumstances have been covered up by the coroner, but they believe that the system is wrong and open to abuse.

Public Record Advocated.

The case of Dr. A. A. Asplund, seven years ago, convicted of performing a criminal operation, caught simply through the alertness of a city detective who happened to see an ambulance waiting for a victim at the doors leading to the doctor's office, was cited by the police.

Every sudden death, no matter whether attended by criminal or suspicious circumstances, should be a matter of public record, said Chief Jenkins. "I am in favor of some sort of a law that would require a complete and open investigation of these cases and the maintenance of records of such deaths.

"Such regulation would assist the police in their work and bring to justice persons who, through the present system, can dispose of the bodies of their victims and evade justice."

Another Demand is Made.

The disclosure regarding suppressing information of such deaths and the habit of surreptitiously removing the corpses from physicians' offices after nightfall has brought another demand from the police—a demand that physicians, as well as hospitals, be required to report every accidental injury they treat.

Under existing regulations we require hospitals to make immediate reports of the receipt of patients suffering from gunshot or knife wounds, or victims of industrial or traffic accidents. This often leads to the immediate arrest of the persons responsible for a crime," said John Moore, chief inspector.

"Physicians are required to make no such report, and many persons injured in wrecks, wounded while operating on patients, or victims of traffic accidents, are not reported to the health board or contagious diseases; they should be obliged to report crimes and accidents to the police."

Asplund is Convicted.

As a result of Dr. Smith's admission, the seven-year-old case of Dr. Asplund became common talk about headquarters yesterday.

Asplund, a physician with practice confined to the city, was held in a jail cell after an illegal operation in his office at Sixth and Washington streets on the afternoon of October 13, 1915. The woman died. An ambulance was called.

Detective Royle, walking down the street, saw the ambulance, and, thinking that an accident had happened, walked into the doctor's office. A glimpse convinced the officer that something was wrong.

According to testimony adduced at the trial, Asplund started for the door when Royle began to question him. This increased the officer's suspicions. He called other detectives, began an investigation of the office and asked evidence.

As a result of this information Asplund was convicted of manslaughter and sentenced to from one to fifteen years in the penitentiary. Though he fought the case for years, he was finally held guilty by the supreme court and obliged to serve a portion of his sentence.

Open Investigation Urged.

"If one kind of a death occurring in a physician's office can be made a secret, what is there to prevent such cases as these being hushed up by the body sneaked out of the office, cremated and all evidence of the crime destroyed," suggested a police official. "Complete and open investigation of every sudden death is the only thing that will prevent these illegal operations."

District Attorney Myers, who made an official inquiry into the case, held yesterday that Coroner Smith has violated no law in suppressing the information of deaths.

COUNTY SAVES \$91,496

Economy Accomplished by Change in Hospital Plans.

After submitting the annual budget to the tax supervising and conservation commission Multnomah county commissioners found where they could effect a saving of \$91,496 in construction and operating expenses of the new county hospital. The county commissioners therefore asked that this reduction be made by the supervising body.

FRAUD TRIAL UNDER WAY

Reputed Crooked Financial Operators Faced Jury at Boise.

BOISE, Ida., Oct. 5.—(Special.)—The second episode in the exposure of the alleged "Doherty" transactions of Charles F. Willard, Dewey O. Pearce and A. B. Ground, is being enacted in Boise, Pearce and Ground standing trial on the charge of getting money under false pretenses.

Willard is serving seven months sentence in the county jail, having pleaded guilty to a similar charge. He also has been indicted by the federal grand jury for using the mails to defraud.

Moving Picture News

TODAY'S FILM FEATURES.
Columbia—Cecil B. DeMille's "Manslaughter."
Majestic—Lon Chaney in "Flash and Blood."
Rivoli—Rupert Hughes' "Remembrance."
Liberty—Mae Murray in "Broadway Rose."
Blue Mouse—Charles Ray in "A Tailor-Made Man."
Hippodrome—Doris May in "Gay and Devilish."
Circle—Noted French production, "I Accuse."

EVERYBODY'S doing it. Everybody, from Maine's rocky, rugged coast to prop boys in the Hollywood studios, is writing scenarios. And a small wonder it is, from the caliber of some of the stories submitted.

Editors soon begin to chase butterflies and are seen to laugh feebly when new plots are mentioned. Here, quoted verbatim, is a letter received by the scenario department at Universal City from a scenario aspirant in Trenton, N. J.:

"Gentlemen—I have a New Story for sale, for Screen use and I like to know if you would like to try one of my Stories. The Story is named 'The Girl Poor in Gold but Rich in Love.' It has nothing to do with the 'King of the Slaves.' It's wonderful stories for photoplay. It's about a man who won his girl for his wife. The most come for her in a chariot drawn by a lion and a wild bear, and when the couple was at the point of death how they become to their lives again. Please answer."

Oh, death, where is thy sting?
Cheery Word for Writers.

One doesn't want to be a literary stealer-jack to get a scenario over at Universal City.

Ray Schrock, scenario editor, has instructed readers to forget the mechanics of stories and to dig down through the language for a possible plot.

"Not all stories are made to order for the screen," he writes. "Often a smashing good story is passed up because the writer didn't do a back hander with the plot and light on his feet in exactly 5000 feet."

Universal believes that it has a splendid story-picking executive in Ray Schrock. Backed by his long

FIRE WEEK IS PLANNED

CHIEF SETS FORTH RULES FOR PREVENTION.

More Extensive Observance of Occasion Than Ever Before in Portland.

Everything is in readiness for the 12th annual nation-wide fire prevention week, according to John E. Young, chief of the Portland fire department. Portland will see more extensive observance of the week this year than has ever been the case before, Chief Young declared.

"The people here are going to be made aware of fire prevention week this year," declared Chief Young. "It is high time that the people of Portland and every city awake to what a yearly fire waste of 13,000 lives and close to a half billion dollars in property is being destroyed every year in this country. Headlessness and carelessness are clearly at the bottom of all fire accidents."

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GRADUATES TO GATHER

Benton County College Alumni to Hold Banquet October 11.

OREGON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, Corvallis, Oct. 5.—(Special.)—An organization banquet of Benton county alumni is planned just before the Farrar concert October 11. "Old grads" will meet in the college tea room at 8 o'clock, and will go in a group to the concert, where a block of seats has been arranged.

Husbands and wives of alumni are invited to this banquet, and any other alumni in Corvallis at the time are invited to "sit in" with the Benton county men and women.

"More interest is being shown in

4 DIVORCE SUITS FILED

Dorothy Mary Furness Charges Husband With Neglect.

Dorothy Mary Furness in a divorce suit filed yesterday in circuit court against Earl Peck Furness charged her spouse with gross neglect.

Furness is employed in the dining car service of a railroad company and receives \$155 a month, read the complaint. The wife asked \$30 a month permanent alimony and possession of a Ford coupe, as well as half interest in the Furness residence.

INCINERATOR BONDS UP

Commissioner Bigelow to Put Matter Before Council.

Authority to advertise for bids for construction of a new unit to the municipal incinerator will be

experience as an editor and writer Schrock weeds out every possibility from among the hundreds of scripts submitted.

Screen Gospel.

Rupert Hughes' big production, "Remembrance," will be shown for the last times at the Rivoli theater today and this evening. It will be followed by "Burning Sands," in which Milton Sills is the under-scored player. "Remembrance" is an entirely different sort of photoplay and well worth seeing. As the writer previously characterized it, it is not merely a gesture of the studio. Literally, it is a slice of life. To the members of the "gold-diggers" fraternity it may not prove very pleasant because it relentlessly holds up an uncompromising mirror before them. But photoplays that start people thinking in the right direction are always worth while.

"The Storm," in which House Peters is featured, and in which he is very capably supported by Virginia Valli and Matt Moore, will be shown at the Circle theater Sunday afternoon. "The Storm" is one of the season's most unqualified hits. Saturday at the Circle Harold Lloyd's mirthquake, "Grandma's Boy," will have a special return engagement. Undoubtedly many that have seen this hilarious outburst before will witness it again.

"The Sin Flood," which is reputed to contain a plot of distinct originality, begins its engagement at the Majestic theater tomorrow, following Lon Chaney's excellent production of "Flash and Blood," which will be shown for the last times today.

At the municipal auditorium this evening and Sunday evening the splendid Bible pictures will not be shown. They will be exhibited at the matinees on those days, however. Consequently, the final performance will be Sunday afternoon. Previous booking arrangements necessitated this change, so far as the Friday and Sunday evenings are concerned. The Bible pictures have been attracting heavy attendance at the auditorium. Aside from their general instructive value, even advanced students of the Bible have conceded the highly educational character of the exceptional pictures.

BOY PASSES NAVY TEST

Willard Lethy to Enter Annapolis at Age of 16 Years.

Word was received in Portland yesterday by Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Lethy that their son, Willard Lethy, has passed his entrance examinations for Annapolis naval academy. The young man, who is 16 years of age, received his appointment several months ago and completed his examinations before entering Oregon agricultural college this fall. He is a freshman there and is majoring in engineering. The young man was graduated with honors from Jefferson high school last year, and is said to be one of the youngest boys in Oregon ever to pass the Annapolis entrance examinations.

SCHOOL DISTRICT BLAMED FOR DEATH

MAN BURNED TO DEATH

BOISE, Ida., Oct. 5.—(Special.)—E. C. Grieg, one of the best known sportsmen in Idaho, was burned to death in Boise this week by a gas-



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Extra Special Sale
Of Women's High and Low Shoes
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The O. A. C. Alumni association than ever before," says Miss Zella Feike, alumni secretary. "One of his crying needs is for a live Benton county club."

line explosion. His 16-year-old son was burned, but he will recover. The accident happened at his home where Mr. Grieg has a laboratory. He was a government assayer connected with the United States assay office in this city for many years. He was operating an assay furnace in the laboratory. This furnace was connected with a high pressure gas-oil tank. The connection broke and gasoline was sprayed over the clothes of Mr. Grieg and his son. Their clothes caught fire.

Phone your want ads to The Oregonian. All its readers are interested in the classified columns.

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Don't use makeshifts instead of proper fuses in your electrical circuits; the fuse is the "safety valve" of the system.

Don't leave electric irons or other heating devices "burning on" while attending to something else.

Don't look for a gas leak with an open flame light; you will be sure to find it. Use an electric flashlight preferably.

Don't use gasoline or other volatile liquids to remove spots from clothing or for other purposes.

Don't throw your lighted matches or smoking material where they can possibly cause a fire.

Don't smoke in bed; perhaps those guilty of this practice are too green to burn, but it is better to be safe.

Don't let children play with matches or bonfires.

Don't fail to have your defective chimneys and flues mended.

Don't forget to have the soot removed from your smokepipe; if not cleaned the pipe may overheat and start a fire when you operate the furnace.

Don't neglect to protect walls, ceilings and partitions from the overheating of stoves, furnaces and pipes.

Don't put hot ashes into wooden boxes or barrels.

Don't fill oil lamps or stoves by open flame light.

Don't let rubbish accumulate.

Don't fail to keep a bucket of water and a bucket of sand in a convenient place for use in case of fire; they may save the lives of your family as they have those of others.

Nothing like it for rub-down after exercise.

A health rub for babies.

For bathing elderly folks and invalids.

A rub with Mifflin Alcohol Massage revives you after the day's work.

Mother's knee has aching muscles and tired feet.

Alcohol for the whole family

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