# CHILD BURNS TO DEATH IN BARN

## Lizzie Walker Dies and Willie Shafer Narrowly Escapes Death.

## START FIRE IN HAYLOFT

### Other Children Who Were Playing in the Barn at the Time That the Fire Started Made Their Escape.

Lizzie Walker, the 4-year-old daughter of Conrad Walker, of 862 Rodney avenue, was burned to death in the hayloft of a small barn at the rear of the Walker residence yesterday afternoon, and her companion, Willie Shafer, a baby boy only 3 years old, escaped death by tumbling down a ladder.

The two children had been playing together in the hayloft the greater part of the afternoon. Shortly before the fire broke out two or three other small children were playing house in the stalls beneath the loft. The Shafer or the Walker child obtained matches, it is supposed, and while striking them set the hay on fire. Not until after the fire had burned itself out was it learned that the Shafer boy had escaped. He appeared in the crowd and pulled his mother's apron-strings to let her know that he was present. The little fellow was too frightened to give a coherent account of how the fire was started. He babbled a few German sentences, to the purport that Lizzie was playing with the matches and started the blaze by throwing the burning stubs into the hay. He did not realize that his little companion was dead, but refused stolidly to answer questions. He appeared more frightened at the crowd than from the fact that he had narrowly escaped death.

Willie said that when the fire started he got hold of a ladder which extended from the ground to the hayloft, and that he fell to the bottom when he put his foot upon it.

August Brandley, a near neighbor, said that he heard the screams of a child's voice when he arrived at the scene of the fire, and that he made an attempt to enter the barn. The heat and smoke, however, drove him back, and he was unable to effect a rescue.

While the mothers of the two babies stood in the front ranks of the crowd calling to firemen to rescue the children, other mothers were hunting for their children, who were known to have been in the barn shortly before the fire was discovered. Before the fire had been extinguished all were accounted for except the Shafer and the Walker children.

The fire burned fiercely for half an hour before firemen could enter the place. While testing the ceiling of the floor above the stalls the body of the little girl fell from the loft at the feet of Assistant Fire Chief Holden and Policeman Gittings. Her remains were removed from the barn to a shed to await the arrival of Coroner Finley. Further search was made, but as all children who had been in the barn were accounted for, it was soon ended.

Conrad Walker, father of the burned child and teamster for a contracting firm, was sent for, and arrived shortly after the body of his daughter was taken from the ruins. He requested the Coroner to turn the body over to another undertaker, which Coroner Finley did immediately, saying that an inquest would not be necessary. The Coroner, on arrival, made a thorough investigation of the premises, and after questioning the parents of both children, said that death was caused by accident. No one, he said, could be held responsible.

The loss to the barn, which was only a small, two-story frame building, including the contents, will not amount to more than a few hundred dollars. No insurance was carried.

So fierce was the heat from the fire that the roof of a residence facing on Mallory avenue was fired. The blaze was quickly extinguished and the damage was of no consequence.

## DEATH OF MRS. A. W. ALLEN

### Pioneer Woman Passes Away After Brief Illness.

Mrs. Augusta J. Allen, wife of Captain H. S. Allen, clerk of the City School Board, died yesterday afternoon at the family residence, 527 Johnson street, from the effects of pneumonia, after an illness of short duration.

She was first attacked last Monday, but the illness was not believed to be of a serious nature, although her husband remained by her side to the end. The couple were very much devoted to each other, and the deepest sympathy is felt for Captain Allen in his bereavement.

Mrs. Allen was one of the pioneer women of the state, and was greatly beloved by a large circle of friends, who will mourn her unexpected demise. No definite arrangements have as yet been made for her funeral, as Captain Allen was too greatly prostrated last night to discuss the matter. It is understood that relatives will reach here today, and in all probability an announcement of the funeral will then be made.

## FRIENDS MAKE CHARGES

### Declare That Smallpox Patient Lacked Proper Treatment.

Friends of A. H. Wilson, clerk in the city water office, who died at the pesthouse of smallpox Friday, allege that he did not receive proper medical treatment while confined there. Wilson, who was a native of Oregon, was born near Halsey in 1882. His parents were killed in a runaway ten years ago, and until he came to Portland he lived with an uncle. He was a student at the Oregon Agricultural College for two years, and after coming here attended business college. He leaves two sisters and a large circle of friends.

### Husband Charges Desertion.

A. F. Neunert, a grocer, has begun suit in the State Circuit Court against Mina Neunert for a dissolution of the matrimonial bonds, on account of desertion beginning March 16, 1905. They were married in April, 1904.

### Sues to Recover Money.

W. H. H. Morgan has begun an action in the State Circuit Court against E. E. Merges for $300.

ANOTHER TYPE OF OREGON BEAUTY QUEEN CANDIDATE No. 11

An admirer of this dreamy-eyed damsel has contributed this to the gallery of beauties now represented in the contest for the position of Queen and Columbia in the industrial parade on Friday, May 25. The contest closes with all pictures that are received by Monday afternoon. The selection of the candidates for the positions which they are to fill will be made as soon as possible. The task before the judges is no light one. For the information of the aspirants it may be stated that the committee is desirous of having other young ladies in the floats besides those in the chief positions. A young lady is desired to represent the State of Oregon on the Oregon float, and several others, the details of which will be made known. The two ladies who are to serve as Queen and Columbia will be advised of their selection by the publication of their likenesses, together with the announcement of the decision of the judges.

# PASSES THE MARK

## More Than a Quarter of a Million Raised.

## OREGON'S AID TO STRICKEN

### Work Has Not Ceased, and Other Thousands Will Be Received for the Benefit of the San Francisco Sufferers.

**PASSES QUARTER MILLION.**

The quarter-million Oregon relief fund for the San Francisco sufferers is an accomplished fact. With yesterday's contributions the fund now amounts to $250,425.55, far past the mark first set by the relief committee. Contributions are still pouring in and much more will be raised during the coming week.

Not since the first few days after the appeal for aid was issued was there so much energy and general spirit shown as yesterday. Everybody was eager to help the fund reach the quarter-million mark, and long before last evening $250,000 was contributed. When the fact was announced that the fund only lacked several hundred dollars from the goal, Portland doubled its energy in making it reach the mark yesterday. People who delayed sending in their contribution, for some reason or other, hastened to do so yesterday, with the result that over $400 was contributed above the quarter-million mark.

The phone in Secretary Giltner's office was busy from early morning, inquiring whether the quarter-million mark was reached. It can hardly be realized that in a little over three weeks this gigantic sum was raised by voluntary contributions. The great appreciation shown Oregon for her noble response by the sufferers will more than repay the donors, and the timely and liberal aid of Oregon will add another bright page to the history of the state.

### Much More Will Come.

The committee expects to receive many more contributions, as much is yet needed. With over $400 as a good start above the quarter-million mark, the committee hopes to be able to raise many thousands more.

The hard efforts of the members of the general relief and popular fund committees have been crowned with complete success, and they cannot conceal their great satisfaction at Oregon's showing.

Although the goal has been reached, the "Made-in-Oregon" fund will continue to grow far beyond it, and offer much-needed help to the unfortunates in the stricken city.

Contributions received yesterday, Saturday, May 12, 1906:

| | |
|---|---|
| Employes Pacific Hardware & Steel Rolling Mills | $ 300.00 |
| Employes of O. R. & N. lines in Oregon, additional | 60.00 |
| Miss Marie A. Soule, the proceeds of the benefit concert at the Heilig, May 10 | 229.65 |
| Remitted by F. A. Mangold, Gervais, Or.: H. L. Woolery, Sr., $1; John Marthaler, $5; cash, $2; cash, $2.30; total subscription | 10.30 |
| Mount Tabor School—This school sent a big express-load of children's clothes and about 100 quarts of home-canned fruits to the San Francisco hospitals; in addition they paid The Oregonian yesterday following cash subscription | 6.39 |
| Catholic churches of Portland, sent to The Oregonian by A. Christie, Archbishop of Oregon City, by George B. Thompson, secretary | 300.00 |
| Mrs. I. Frohman, one share Lewis and Clark stock, redemption value | 2.50 |
| Total | $ 908.84 |
| Previously acknowledged | 249,716.71 |
| Grand total | $250,425.55 |

### Traveling Men Swell Relief Fund.

Portland Post of the Travelers' Protective Association has forwarded $1000 to the San Francisco branch of the organization to be applied in the general relief work. The money was contributed by the traveling men of both Oregon and Washington, and will probably be followed later by additional subscriptions.

## GEN. WILLIAMS DEPARTS

### Will Take Charge of the Department of Colorado.

Brigadier-General Constant Williams, who has been in command of the Department of the Columbia, with headquarters at Vancouver Barracks for nearly two years, has been relieved and assigned to the command of the Department of Colorado, with headquarters at Denver. General Williams left yesterday morning for a tour of inspection in Alaska, and it is thought that when he returns he will leave immediately for Denver to assume command of the Department of Colorado.

It is presumed that the successor of General Williams will be appointed some time this month. General Buchanan retires this month, and it is believed by the Army officers at Vancouver that his successor, who will be appointed, will be assigned to the command of the Department of the Columbia.

It is also understood that General Williams will retire within a year. He came to the Department of the Columbia from Texas, where he made his headquarters at Fort Sam Houston. General Williams has made many friends in Portland since he has been in command of the Department of the Columbia, and both civilians and Army men greatly regret that he has been transferred.

Brigadier-General Constant Williams.

### Doctors Take State Examination.

The examination of 44 candidates who desire to practice medicine in Oregon was concluded yesterday noon by the State Board of Medical Examiners. The examinations were held at the North Pacific Dental College and results will be announced in about ten days by Dr. Byron E. Miller, secretary. The following candidates took the examination: Henry E. Estey, Arthur K. Turner, L. P. Bittner, J. J. Sarozin, W. A. Monroe, T. K. Johnson, O. M. Babbitt, W. W. Looney, F. P. Fisch, Alfred Williams, George Le Loss Beech, C. L. Wood, John Madden, J. L. Wooden, V. J. McCombs, A. B. Starbuck, A. B. Sweet, Hisashi Mishina, F. F. T. Thompson, J. S. Rankin, A. E. Teasdale-Buckell, L. A. Ballman, W. K. Seelye, T. E. Zieber, C. M. Hollopeter, H. J. Kavanaugh, W. C. Judd, A. C. Hanson, James Sproat, J. C. Evans, George Wood, Roger Biswell, W. Le Roy Fuller, P. F. McMurdo, Lee Clanton, R. D. Byrd, R. H. Fields, R. E. Schmidt, L. V. Smith, E. A. Woods, J. M. Sleicher, H. E. Kelly.

### Broken Dynamo Causes Trouble.

A broken dynamo in the Portland Electrical Works, 351 Stark street, at 9 o'clock last night set a number of live wires squirming and twisting about the room by the force of the wasting current. The fire department answered a still alarm, and the firemen managed at length to cut the wires and eliminate the increasing danger of the building's catching fire.

# SENSATION SPRUNG ON WATER BOARD

## Employe Is Interested With Man Who Bids for Irvington Contract.

## VIOLATES CITY CHARTER

### Charles Rullman Connected With Lowest Bidder, So Irvington Contract Goes to Standard Construction Company.

A sensational feature of a special meeting of the City Water Board was developed near the close of proceedings yesterday afternoon, when D. D. Clarke, chief engineer of the Water Department, declared that Charles Rullman, one of its employes, was interested with his brother-in-law, W. C. Sorsby, of 354 San Rafael street, in the lowest bid for the removal of the Irvington standpipe. Mayor Lane stated that this was in direct violation of section 135 of the charter, which provides that no municipal employe shall be or become directly or indirectly interested in or in the performance of any contract for the supply of labor or material to the city.

**Proposals Are Opened.**

Proposals for the removal of the standpipe were opened at the regular meeting of the Water Board last Wednesday, and referred to the superintendent and Engineer for tabulation. These bids were included in the offers: Portland Steel Shipbuilding Company, $13,715; W. C. Sorsby, of 354 San Rafael street, Portland, $11,075; Paquet, Giebisch & Joplin, $15,330; Standard Construction Company, $13,390; Phoenix Iron Works, $16,360.

Mr. Clarke explained that, after the bids had been received, from all information at hand, gathered from independent sources, he made an estimate of the cost involved, and said it aggregated $13,200. He, with others, was surprised at the low amount of the bid submitted by Sorsby, and, while investigating his standing with a view of ascertaining his responsibility in carrying out the contract, the discovery was made that he was the brother-in-law of Rullman, an employe in the main office of the Water Department.

**Pleads Ignorance as Defense.**

In extenuation of his conduct, Rullman had told him that he was unaware of any municipal regulation that prohibited him from assisting his relative in the preparation of the bid, and besides he intended to quit his position with the city in case Sorsby was successful in securing the contract, and engage in partnership with him on the work. According to Mr. Clarke, Rullman had announced his intention to resign at once, in view of the situation. "He intends to quit tonight," said Mr. Clarke.

"Well, I think if I were in his place that would be a good job—quit tonight," responded Mayor Lane, significantly.

Mr. Clarke stated as his belief that while Rullman had been technically indiscreet in certain respects, he did not consider him willfully guilty of any wrong-doing, as whatever information he was capable of furnishing to Sorsby was available to anybody. He stated further that Rullman had worked on the plans after office hours, hence he was not infringing in any way on the city's demand for his services. Engineer Clarke attributed the lowness of his bid to the fact that he had depended upon figures furnished him by boilermakers and others interested in materials of this character, but who had refused to stand by their figures when Sorsby and Rullman sought to have them bind themselves to perform certain work when it was apparent Sorsby would get the contract.

**Rullman Put Up Deposit.**

Rullman is also said to have acknowledged to Mr. Clarke that he had advanced a portion of the $500 deposit as an evidence of good faith at the time the bid was submitted.

The revelations of Mr. Clarke created a decided sensation among members of the Water Board, and provoked considerable discussion concerning the advisability of making any award at all under the proposals. Dr. C. H. Raffety thought the safest, best and most honorable thing to do under the circumstances was to reject all the bids and readvertise.

Dr. S. E. Josephi contended that before the contract was entered into with Rullman he would have to quit the employ of the city, and he could not see how it would interfere with his bid. It seemed to him that if the bid was rejected, and the award made to the next highest bidder, it would look too much as if the Board itself had been trying to use him as a straw bidder. He was in favor of placing the burden on Sorsby, and in case he could not carry out his contract, make him forfeit his $500 deposit. Besides the $2215 difference between the Sorsby bid and that of the Standard Construction Company, the next lowest, appealed to Dr. Josephi very strongly.

**Sorsby Bid Is Rejected.**

Mayor Lane said that if the board was without notice of the situation it would be different, but having incidentally ascertained the condition of things, he felt that it was incumbent on the body to at least reject the Sorsby proposal. This view of the matter seemed to meet the views of nearly all the members, and upon motion of G. W. Allen, seconded by Dr. Raffety, the Sorsby bid was rejected and the contract awarded to the Standard Construction Company upon its bid of $13,390.

Rullman is not a civil service appointee, and as a matter of fact failed in the examination, although he has always been regarded as a capable man, especially in the draughting department, and is merely temporarily employed at present owing to a scarcity of eligibles. It is thought that yesterday's developments will have a tendency to curtail his services, and Superintendent Dodge intimated as much to Mayor Lane, as it was conceded the episode was likely to create adverse criticism.

**Hoge & Swift Get Contract.**

Hoge & Swift were awarded the contract for supplying gate valves on their bid of $5453.40, and the Oregon Foundry was successful in the matter of furnishing the department with 130 fire hydrants. Its bid was $5500.

It was also the sense of the board that the Albina pumping station should be remodeled as a measure of precaution against fire, and also ot conform with the recommendations of the National Board of Fire Underwriters.

### Cunning Opium Smugglers.

SEATTLE, Wash., May 12.—(Special.)—A reward of $2500 has been offered by customs authorities for the discovery of the cache of 500 pounds of opium supposed to be hidden on the banks of the Puyallup River or Hylebos Creek near Tacoma Harbor. While customs officials lay in wait Sunday watching for the smugglers to reach their cache at Brown's Point, the men succeeded in approaching and removing the opium.

The smugglers had headquarters here in a houseboat on the Duwamish River. One side could be removed to allow their launch Amp to enter and depart, and for months the customs authorities were unable to find the hiding-place of the boat they were convinced had been smuggling the contraband. The launch has been siezed.

# FORCED OUT BY EXORBITANT RENTS

## Famous "Quarter Block of Fine Pianos" to Be Discontinued

### Eilers Piano House Forced to Abandon Its Retail Piano and Organ Business Owing to Astonishing Demands Made by a Frenzied Landlord. Entire Stock of Pianos and Organs to Be Sold in Two Weeks. Office and Store Furniture, Desks, Typewriters, Carpets, Rugs, Etc., Etc., All for Sale at What They Will Bring.

The news of the decision reluctantly reached by Eilers Piano House during the past week to retire altogether from the retail piano and organ business, rather than to submit to outrageous demands made by a frenzied landlord, will be received on all sides with a great deal of astonishment and much genuine regret.

Within the next two weeks "Portland's Quarter-Block of Fine Pianos," which has so long held the proud distinction as being the largest and finest display in the United States, will be a matter of mere history.

A statement of our many attempts during the past eight or nine months to effect a renewal of the old lease on an increased but a reasonable basis, and the adroit evasion of definite conclusions on account of alleged inability to decide beforehand, and the oily promises, on part of the landlord, of fair and proper treatment "when the time comes" (at the termination of the old lease), is not essential here. Suffice it to say that matters have finally culminated in our receiving the following formal notice:

"Eilers Piano House, City: You are hereby notified to quit and deliver up possession on the 31st day of May, 1906, of the premises now occupied by you, under lease from Thos. Scott Brooke, Trustee, and owned by the estate of Lloyd Brooke, deceased, said lease terminating May 31st, 1906, said premises being known as Eilers Piano House, and occupying the ground floor and the basement of the building situated on lots five and six, block 214, City of Portland, Oregon.
"Signed, THOS. SCOTT BROOKE, Trustee."

It would seem safe to assume that Eilers Piano House, ranking as it does with the three largest and foremost concerns of its kind in the United States, is surely in position to pay a rental for store and show rooms equal to any other mercantile establishment; but when an avaricious landlord greedily demands an annual rental exceeding practically the entire annual net earnings on the Portland retail business of the concern, the maintenance of such an establishment is simply out of the question.

Much as we regret to take this step, there is left for Eilers Piano House no other alternative than to retire from the retail business, and this must be done within the next two weeks.

The famous establishment on Upper Washington street, which has done more to bring a retail clientele to the Westward, and has, during the past seven years, done more in the fostering and cause of music than any other Western concern, will have to give way before the rapacious demands of a landlord who must have surely lost his head. Nor is this the only case where the demands for rentals out of all reason have caused the retirement of a more or less important concern.

With our wholesale facilities at Thirteenth and Northrup streets (which property we own), and with recently acquired facilities in both Tacoma and Seattle, we shall be able to maintain a volume of business in excess of the preceding years, but until such time as we can secure facilities in keeping with our requirements, on a basis that will enable us to make ends meet, Eilers Piano House will remain out of the retail piano and organ business of Portland.

In the meantime, commencing Tuesday morning, the greatest sacrifice of fine pianos, new ones and used ones, of practically every make, will take place. Tomorrow the retail department will be kept closed. Look for closing-out announcement in tomorrow (Monday) morning's paper. Everything must be sold—pianos, organs, pipe organs, pianola pianos, music rolls, carpets, furnishings, fixtures, a safe, typewriters, etc., etc. It's a sad breaking up, for which, however, others than the owners and officers of Eilers Piano House are responsible.

## STREET-CAR MEN ORGANIZE

### Half of the Force Said to Have Signed the Roll.

Motormen and conductors in the employ of the Portland Railway Company and the Oregon Water Power Company are quietly organizing into a union. Perhaps half of the 600 men on the Portland Railway Company's lines have signed and organizers who are at work have hopes of unionizing practically the whole working force of the city lines. Carmen are reticent about the organization and its purposes but it is supposed that in case the recent petitions for an advance in wages are disregarded by the company that the union will attempt to enforce its demands by trying to tie up the system. Officials of the company will not discuss the situation.

### Will Discuss Lumber Minimums.

It is probable that some new adjustment of lumber minimums more satisfactory to the Oregon and Washington millers will be made by the railroads. The recent new minimums, announced to become effective June 1, have met objections from lumbermen throughout the Northwest, their contention being that because of the difficulty of loading certain kinds of lumber to the prescribed minimum, the effect of the new figures would result in a raise in rates.

R. B. Miller, general freight agent of the Harriman lines in the Northwest, left yesterday for St. Paul, taking with him his chief rate clerk, J. W. Chapman, and it is understood that the lumber question will be given thorough consideration.

### Secures Japs for Railway Work.

Driven by the scarcity of laborers for railroad work to go to other states in search for men, President E. E. Lytle, of the Pacific Railway & Navigation Company, has just signed a contract for the services of 300 Japanese, which were secured by a California labor agent. The force of Japanese will go to work on the construction of the Lytle road now being built from Hillsboro to Tillamook.

### Engines Will Burn Oil.

All passenger locomotives on the Harriman lines in Oregon, with the exception of those running on the O. R. & N. beyond Umatilla, will be burning oil exclusively for fuel before the end of the present week. Passengers on these lines need hereafter have no fear of cinders, for oil burners do not scatter them. Black smoke will also be conspicuous for its absence and the new fuel will add largely to the comfort of travel over Oregon railroads.

### Railway Personals.

A. E. Campbell, commercial agent at Seattle for the Burlington, spent yesterday in Portland on business.

Paul Thompson, agent for the Illinois Central at Seattle, was looking after business for his road in Portland yesterday.

H. Dickson, city passenger agent for the Great Northern, is spending a few days at Long Beach. He will return to town early this week.

Joseph F. Reilly, detective for the O. R. & N., leaves today for New York for a month's visit. He will be in Omaha on his way East for a short stay with railroad friends.

William McMurray, assistant general passenger agent for the Harriman lines, will return home today from Pendleton, where he has been attending a session of the Oregon Development League.

H. A. Hinshaw, formerly agent for the Southern Pacific at Hillsboro, has been appointed traveling freight agent for the Southern Pacific, with headquarters at Portland. He will enter on his new duties immediately and will office with District Freight Agent H. E. Lounsbury in the Worcester building.

## TACOMA FIREMEN ASSIST

### Send Fund for Relief of Department in San Francisco.

Chief Campbell yesterday received a letter from George McAlvey, chief of the Tacoma fire department, inclosing a check for $85.50, which was indicated as the proceeds of a voluntary subscription on the part of the firemen of that city in behalf of the San Francisco firemen and their families. This does not represent the total subscriptions from the Tacoma firemen, as the members had made donations through other channels, and in addition its relief association had given a substantial amount to the general relief committee of San Francisco.

As president of the Northwest Firemen's Association, Chief Campbell has received many subscriptions of this so[illegible] from the firemen of adjacent cities, [illegible] of which have been promptly forwarde[illegible] to the relief of the San Francisco depar[illegible]ment and the families of its member[illegible] He has been indefatigable in his effor[illegible] in this direction.

### Trial Docket to Be Called.

Judge Wolverton will call the tri[illegible] dockets in both the District and Ci[illegible]cuit Courts tomorrow morning at [illegible] o'clock. Attorneys will be present [illegible] agree upon dates for the various case[illegible]

### Finishes Hearing on Free Alcohol.

WASHINGTON, May 12.—Hearing on the denatured alcohol bill wer[illegible] closed today by the Senate committe[illegible] on finance.

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