

## DAYS AFTER SANTA WORRY TO CHARITY

Relief Fund Raised to Aid Poor From One Time of Plenty to Another.

## YEAR OF CHEER IS SLOGAN

Case Number 65 May See Gaunt Specter of Death as Christmas Visitor in Home Where Husband Is Dying of Cancer.

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO CHRISTMAS RELIEF FUND OF THE ASSOCIATED CHARITIES.**

Previously reported.....\$152,938

Hanna Olson, Salem, Or.....20.00

Cash, "P. C.".....5.00

T. F. Cook, ".....5.00

Cash, "J. J. D.".....10.00

Cash, ".....3.50

J. K. Gill & Co., employes.....5.00

Cash, "Mrs. S. B." Mc.....1.00

Minville.....5.00

J. M. Strite, Woodburn.....1.00

The Misses Allen.....2.00

**Total.....\$174,938**

Cash contributions should be sent to Secretary Y. R. Manning, 411 Commercial block; to R. S. Howard, at Ladd & Tilton Bank; or to The Oregonian, for the purchase of clothing, groceries or other supplies should go to the Associated Charities, 411 Commercial block.

It is not so much Christmas day in which the Associated Charities is interested in the raising of its Christmas Relief Fund. On every side charitable organizations, every relief bureau and innumerable other devices spring into existence under the expansive warmth of the Christmas spirit to assure the poor of the city of plenty and cheer at least on that one day of the year.

The 364 other days of the year are the ones that interest the Associated Charities—for 364 days between one time of plenty and another is a weary while for the poor to wait for the spirit of giving that simply runs away with itself in the Christmas holidays and showers the poor with gifts and Christmas cheer, is most apt to sink into slumber in the long weeks of the winter that follow the Christmas holiday.

The association recognizes how much more keenly the contrast of poverty must come home to the poor in those days after Christmas, when the holiday spirit has burnt itself out and generous people come no more to the door to show them with gifts and supplies and sympathy. And it is for this reason that the Charities raises its relief fund.

**Charities Rise and Fall.**

For charitable organizations may rise and fall, but the Associated Charities must remain throughout the year, carrying relief and cheer to the sick and the unfortunate, whether it be holiday giving or the equally necessary relief of other times of the year.

"Christmas cheer through the year" is the slogan under which the fund was launched and the year's work is planned. To catch the prodigal spirit of charity that runs free in the Christmas holidays and conserve it so that its good effects may be felt through the whole year—this is the plan.

The \$20 or the \$10 or \$1 that the generous citizen of Portland sends today as his Christmas contribution to the work of the charities, may carry relief today to a sick man, or may come out in the middle of next month just in the nick of time to save some poor family from home, or may be used to tide some sick man or woman over until they are able to support themselves and their families once more.

**Cases of Need Arise.**

The cases of need that arise are innumerable, and the procession of poor that passes through the headquarters of the Associated Charities continues as endless in other months as in the month in which the Christmas day is celebrated.

There is one case, for example, listed as "Number 65" in the files of the Charities, that calls out to the sympathy of all living men and women.

**Case 65—Death May Be Christmas Visitor.**

Not the joyous Santa Claus, but the gaunt specter of Death seems likely to be the Christmas visitor in this home. The husband is an old man and is surely dying from cancer of the stomach.

**Wife Struggles Onward.**

The wife, who is about 40 years old, struggles, by such day work as she can find, to support the sick man and the little granddaughter, 12 years old. Her meager earnings are barely sufficient even to keep the family supplied with the bare necessities of life. They have little food and no fuel.

And as the great joy of all the world approaches, the hand of death is creeping closer and closer to the hatching of their doom.

**Case 66—Aged Woman to Lose Her Home.**

No child nor child to care whether she lives or dies, has one old woman who lives all alone in a cheap little house. One cannot work much at 72 years, especially when all one's kindred, the ones who keep within one the ambition to live and to work, are gone.

She has no money and no way to earn any money. She is lonely and without food.

Soon the rent will be far in arrears and to protect himself from further loss the landlord has said that it will be necessary for him to turn the aged woman out the streets to make her way as best she can.

Yesterday morning the thermometer was well down below the freezing point, and householders shivered when they slipped out of bed and down to the frosty bareness of the streets and the furnace. Half clothed and poorly fed, how will it fare with this old woman in the next few weeks?

**Case 67—Widow and Children Hungry.**

There are six children, all under 14 years of age, and the mother, a widow, is the sole breadwinner.

She has been unable to earn anything for a long time, and the family is utterly destitute.

They are cold and hungry, and the immediate need for fuel is the greatest, and for enough food to keep life in the children's little bodies. The mother is unable to earn enough to care for them at this time, and it will be necessary for permanent help through the winter to be given.

It is for such cases as this that the charities has its Christmas relief fund.

**Responses Already Generous.**

Portland's generous people have responded to the call for donations to the fund as never before this year, in spite

of the many other demands upon their charity that have been made.

Even cities in other parts of the state are joining in the work to help provide the sort of Christmas cheer that will help the poor through all the year. Tualatin, Tillamook and McMinnville, cities that gave such great assistance last summer to the fresh air movement, have sent in messages asking for the names and addresses of children who visited them last summer, so that they can send them Christmas presents and assist in helping them in their needs for the winter.

Portland contributors are liberal not only in sending in cash donations, but also many are sending in supplies of food and clothing. Groceries were received yesterday from Mrs. F. J. Hawkins, George Down, Mrs. J. C. Downing and Mrs. Griffin. Clothing supplies were received yesterday from Mrs. Louise Charleston, Miss Mary Walker, A. Friend from Clatsop Beach, Mrs. P. M. Warren, Stalger Shoe Company and Mrs. J. C. Stranahan. Andrews and Conover sent wood supplies to several families.

The Christmas relief fund campaign will continue until Christmas. Only about two weeks remain and in that time the Associated Charities sends its appeal to all the generous citizens of Portland to help create a fund of sufficient strength to make it truly possible for the needy to have what they need it throughout the whole year as well as in the Christmas season.

## TESTS PUZZLE TRONSON

EXPERT SAYS SLAYER IS VICTIM OF ARRESTED DEVELOPMENT.

Testimony That Murderer Has Mental Power of Child About 9 Years Old Does Not Impress Jury.

For the first time in the history of Multnomah County scientific tests were made last Wednesday by a psychologist to determine the degree of mental development of a prisoner accused of murder. The tests were made of Fred Tronson, convicted of the murder of Emma Ulrich.

The defense failed, but the problem presented was an entirely new one to state jurisprudence. The expert who examined Tronson, Miss Grace Lyman, who is employed to make similar tests for the United States Government, decided that Tronson is a victim of arrested development and that he has the mental age of a child of nine years old. She testified to that effect at the trial, but the jury was not impressed noticeably and Attorney Dan Powers for the defense attributed this to the fact that this line of evidence is entirely new and untried in the West.

The tests were applied in the section of the office of the Deputy District Attorney Collier. Miss Lyman impressed the prisoner with the fact that she was his friend and had come to help him. He was asked to give his best in making answers to the questions, and it was believed he did so. Though some thought that he realized the object of the tests and purposely made a poor showing.

Tronson is large of frame, appears to be of sturdy build, but is described by the words "loutish" and "hulking." A look of entire vacancy is always on his face and he never laughs, though he seems entirely absent from his mind.

Miss Lyman first spoke a series of numbers, which he was told to remember and repeat after her, such as 3, 7, 5, 6, 4. This simple test brought mistaken answers. He was then told to look sharply at two diagrams drawn on a sheet of paper, one being two rectangles, one within the other, and another a roughly drawn series of squares in a row.

"I used to paint a little and I can draw some," mumbled Tronson, when this test was shown him, "but I don't know how to do this."

After looking at the figures for a moment a pencil and paper were supplied and he was asked to imitate them without looking at the originals. He evidently had forgotten the designs and asked to look at them again. After looking at them for a moment he remotely resembled one of the figures.

"Make a sentence using the words 'my, ball, and river,' directed Miss Lyman. Tronson gazed vacantly toward Tom Hood for some time and then, evidently pleased with himself, said: "He threw the ball in the river." He then drew on a sheet of paper and Tronson was told it represented a two-acre field in which a boy and a girl were playing. "Where would you look for the ball?" he was asked.

This was a game that Tronson liked. He took the pencil and wrote, "I would look for the ball in the river," after the proposition was explained to him over again he drew a corkscrew spiral that covered the field and showed his search was a most thorough one. "He has a deep-seated objection to facing anything. He often regrets since his arrest that he lost his hat on a country road near Vancouver while making his escape after the shooting."

"You would think that was a million-dollar hat," said one who heard him tell of his loss.

Miss Lyman put a number of fables to Tronson and asked him to point out the moral. He did not show the slightest reasoning power. She started to tell the familiar one of the milkmaid going to market, the milk being not to count your chickens before they are hatched.

"I don't want to hear about milkmaids and eggs," he said, "I want to know about the adventure of a milkman." Instead, Tronson said he could see no sense in it. Other children's stories he would not listen to.

Miss Lyman asked him to name as many words as he could in a given time. She held the watch and told him when to stop. He named a few words and showed no sign of making a beginning. Being urged, he mumbled: "don't feel like naming words; I don't want to do that."

The fable of the crow with the piece of meat in its mouth and the wily fox that stood under the tree and asked the crow to sing conveyed no lesson to Tronson and a number of others also went over his head. He did some simple tests in mathematics, such as the making change in imaginary purchases, suggested some words that made rhymes with others of one syllable and arranged blocks of different weights in order. These tests were accomplished with a fair degree of accuracy.

On the whole, however, Tronson's mental development was found to be low. Any normal child 9 or 10 years old would have made a much better showing, say those who watched the tests. It is the expert's opinion that he is feeble-minded, which is the same, she says, as pronouncing him a victim of arrested development.

**Boy, 11, Missing Since Wednesday.**

Arthur Trevor, 11 years old, has been missing from his home, 618 Union avenue, since Wednesday morning, and his mother, who is ill, is worried over his absence. The boy has light hair, is of medium build and wore a dark blue serge coat. He is reported to have been seen on the Estacada line, but efforts to find him have failed thus far.

**Columbia Highway Open.**

The cold, dry air of the past few days has dried up the Columbia River highway to such an extent that Roadmaster Yeon has decided to drop the bars and permit automobiles to use the highway any time they wish. As it is cold and windy there, Mr. Yeon advised tourists to "bundle up" to make the trip comfortable.

## TRONSON TAUGHT TO SERVE LIFE TERM

Judge McGinn, in Sentencing Slayer, Says No Sympathy Should Be Shown.

## MURDERER CALLED COWARD

Court Believes if Act Had Been Committed Before Election Death Penalty Likely Would Not Have Been Abolished.

Fred Tronson, convicted of murder in the second degree last Wednesday by the shooting of Emma Ulrich, was sentenced to life imprisonment yesterday morning by Judge McGinn. An hour later he was on his way to the penitentiary in charge of a Deputy Sheriff.

Tronson wore the same blank expression that was characteristic of him throughout the trial. He seemed to realize nothing of what was being done and had nothing to say when Judge McGinn asked him to give reasons, if any, why sentence should not be pronounced.

Judge McGinn made some significant remarks in passing sentence. He said that had Tronson committed the rash act before the election for the abolition of the death penalty, he would have no doubt in his mind that the anti-capital punishment amendment would not have passed.

**Showing Clemency Opposed.**

He said there should be no clemency shown murderers of the Tronson type and that the sentence of life imprisonment should mean just that and nothing less.

Judge McGinn said: "Before the curtain is rung down upon the last scene of this horrible tragedy which took the life of this beautiful young woman it may be well to pause and consider the lesson which is read to us hereof."

"We have recently decreed by popular vote that the death penalty is to be abolished. That life is sacred and that even the state in its governmental capacity may lawfully take it; that the induction of the municipal law, following the teaching of the commandment, 'Thou shalt not kill,' applies to the state as much as it does to the individual and that the state itself will be more sacred and will be more respected if the state itself does not take life. It may be well if what is thus presented is proven true by events to follow."

"I have no doubt in my own mind that if this horrible tragedy had occurred a few days before the election the death penalty would not have been abolished, but it would have been retained by a very large majority. It remains for us all, therefore, to see, if the death penalty is to continue of the statute books, that there be no recurrence of acts of this kind. If they happen again we may depend upon it that reaction will come which will put the death penalty upon the statute book, there to abide."

**"Bans Must Not Be Let Down."**

"Another thing that is read to us: Where one is shown to have the blood lust, as is indicated in the case of Tronson, such an extent that human life is never safe while such an one is at large, life imprisonment is the only safe measure. There can be no letting down of the bars in the years to come when sympathy for the murderer may lead to a belief that he ought to be released. Warned as we are by what he did in this case, we must know that in the future the imprisonment of a murderer must mean life imprisonment for him."

"We must follow the example of Massachusetts in the case of Jesse Pomeroy. Forty-two years ago and more Jesse Pomeroy demonstrated that he had the blood lust; that it was congenitally there. He was by the way, a very large man, a giant, and many appeals have been made to the executives of that commonwealth for clemency, but Massachusetts has not forgotten that it owes a duty to the living and that duty was not to let men of the Jesse Pomeroy type loose to prey upon mankind."

**Prey Upon Mankind.**

"So I want this move to leave a message to those that may come after me, and to those who may be on the scene when many of us who are here present are gone. This is a murder, most foul, committed by one for whose life we almost might say, in the language of humanity's great poet: 'For thy life let justice be done.'"

Tronson made no answer to the judge's words. He was asked to sign a statement that he was guilty of the murder of Emma Ulrich and that he was not insane at the time of the crime.

Tronson signed the statement and was taken to the penitentiary. He was placed in a cell with other prisoners. He was told that he was to remain in the penitentiary for the rest of his life.

**Wanton Slayer Always a Coward.**

"This is not called up at this time to offer any insult to this man, but that we may thereby take a lesson. Those who have had the opportunity to know this man, and who have seen the administration of the criminal law know that a wanton murderer is always a coward, and such is this man."

The message which I leave this morning, to be read at all times in the future whenever any application may be made to any executive for the release of this man, or to any pardon board, is to know that whether I am present or absent, whether I am on earth or beyond it, that I protest against executive clemency ever being shown to this man. Life imprisonment is the only safe measure. It is the only way to keep him from the living to see that his kind are not allowed to repeat these acts.

The judgment of the Court is that you be imprisoned in the Penitentiary of the State of Oregon for the term of your natural life, and I trust that natural life means just what it says. And there is no reason why it should be any delay in this case. Let this man be taken immediately to the penitentiary and there let him be kept until he is dead, or until he escapes, or anything else needed. Take him at once."

**Woman Sentenced for Life.**

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 12.—Mrs. Charlotte Sharpless, convicted yesterday of the murder of her husband with a jeweled lodge sword, was sentenced to the penitentiary for life today. She heard the announcement with the same apparent unconcern manifested by her throughout the trial.

The United States has been exporting 1, Germany nearly 50,000,000 pounds of prunes a year and 350,000 pounds of raisins.

## TRONSON, AGED 24, PLACED IN UNDESIRABLE CLASS

George A. Thacher Makes Unique Study of Criminal, Apparently Inoffensive Until Mind Impels Him to Destroy Being He Cannot Influence.

BY GEORGE A. THACHER.

ALL of the circumstances of the killing of Emma Ulrich by Fred Tronson, together with his appearance and actions and personal history, made me think that he was a mental defective. The morons are common enough but are not criminal as a rule, being usually the shiftless, the incapable, the drunken and the hopelessly stupid. The moron is usually both male and female, the latter generally a woman of the under world. At the same time the criminal class is largely recruited from the morons, the feeble-minded, the defective, the crimes demanding skill and careful planning.

The name moron is arbitrary as are the terms idiot and imbecile. The American Association for the Study of the Feeble-Minded defines an idiot as a person whose intelligence does not go beyond that of a child of 3 years; an imbecile one who does not know more than a child of 7 years; and a moron as one who has the intelligence of a child from 9 to 15 years.

A casual glance is enough to pick out an idiot or an imbecile, but the morons often appear like normal persons until they have been studied carefully. They are a source of exasperation to social workers, and the hard-headed business men often suggest that the police club them to death because they refuse to behave like normal beings.

**Tronson Shiftless Person.**

To this class belongs Fred Tronson, a young man of 24 years, whom I learned from his mother had never held a job in his life more than two or three days. He was a shiftless person, the fact of the matter, he always has been inoffensive, and is a member of the Church and voted for prohibition, but when he found he could not have the girl he wanted his childish mind impelled him to destroy the being he could not influence.

Some months ago a feminine moron of 23 years, whom I knew well, blew the top of her head with a shotgun for some childish reason or other. She was a pretty and attractive girl and was fond of her mother and brother. The people of the town were less feeble-minded than they would be picked out as imbeciles by anyone.

The took care of the family part of the job. The people of the town were perhaps needless to say that she was a disorderly character, and in her domestic life she was a failure. She was for the United States courts and state courts in white slave cases than any girl on the Pacific Coast probably.

Mr. Powers, his attorney, asked my assistance as a member of the board of directors of the Oregon Prisoners' Aid Society, and because I have helped handle cases of delinquent defectives, I have had numerous opportunities to study the defective through the courtesy of the District Attorney's office, and of the Police Department, especially the women's protective division, as well as the cases of paroled prisoners and defectives cared for by the Pacific Coast Rescue and Protective Society, which W. G. Macsac is the superintendent. There is a steady grist of them being ground through the mill, and society pays a heavy cost in the prisons, courts, police and Sheriff's deputies, not to mention the destruction they cause in life and property.

**Convention Is Great Need.**

This case of murder was so flagrant that we decided after consulting with the District Attorney to try to get the facts before the public, not with any intention of making a sensational story, but simply to show the citizens of Oregon that this is more a problem of sympathy for the murderer than of law. Mr. Powers admitted the fact of the killing to the court and the jury, and offered the testimony of the alienists, houses and in the House of Representatives that Tronson was not insane, but of low-grade mentality.

We also secured the services of Miss Grace Lyman, a psychologist who has examined hundreds of feeble-minded persons, to examine Tronson and to give a report on his mental condition. She said that Tronson was about 5 years old mentally.

The tests used by Miss Lyman have caused some comment and the first impulse was to think that Tronson was "bunk," as one of the District Attorney's assistants in the criminal work assured me.

**Grade of Moron Determined.**

They are, however, based upon thousands of experiments among children and show the growth from year to year. The tests are of intelligence, and these tests the grade of the idiot and the imbecile is determined as well as the moron. All fathers and mothers should know the grade of their children, and the grade of the child should be known to the police and the courts.

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Profile View of Fred Tronson.

ested in this case and many others where the offense is not murder, because the members know that many men are paroled from prison who should be detained permanently, because they are a menace to society. Tronson should never be permitted to go at large, and he should never be permitted to leave prison, for the defect is certainly inherited. There are many other men of his type who are in prison, but who will get out after serving a minimum sentence because the prison is a hard place to live permanently, and because the room is needed for fresh lot prisoners. Strictly speaking, these are institutional cases and should have a permanent home where they may be made as nearly self-supporting as possible.

The most obvious remedy is to prevent progeny of feeble minds, but that is also impossible except in institutional cases. The people of Oregon object to sterilizing criminals as a question of personal freedom.

**Tronson Surly Feeble-Minded.**

Tronson's mother says that he was ill at years of age with diphtheria and that he suffered afterward from discharges from both ears for a period of 10 years. Whatever the cause, he is undoubtedly feeble-minded and must be permanently detained as a menace to society.

A couple of years ago I wrote an article on commercial prostitution which was published in The Oregonian. The article was in the Public Library, and the fact that several vice centers in Portland were managed by apparently hereditary defectives possessing a blood relationship to each other, drew attention to "The Kallikak Family," published by Dr. Henry H. Goddard, of Vineland, N. J., which gives a history for half a dozen generations of feeble-minded, alcoholic, immoral and degenerate crew, which cost the state many thousands of dollars.

Dr. Goddard has just published a comprehensive discussion of some 326 cases of feeble-mindedness. There is a copy in the Public Library, and Miss Lyman has ordered an extra copy for the City Hall reference library. The title of the book is "Feeble-Mindedness: Its Causes and Consequences." Some of these cases are the despair of the community, and present criminal relationships which are a disgrace to laws and jail system.

I have in mind some of the girls in the State Training School at Salem, in the Louise Home for the Deaf, in the Home for the Good Shepherd, not to mention some of the recurring cases in the police court.

"I have just received a letter from Dr. Goddard in reference to the mental defect of Tronson which he wrote upon reading the account of the murder in the Oregonian and some facts which I, L. Miller, traveling passenger of a mental defect, he says:

"I shall be most interested to know whether this phase of the matter is at all considered in the trial. I presume the people will object to such a version of the case, and yet they will not speak of it."

Readers of his books will understand the reasons for a change of attitude on the part of the public in this vital matter of the protection of society.

## RABBITS TO RELIEVE POOR

Drives Organized in Five Towns Help Needy in Portland.

Five towns Oregon and will send the rabbits caught into Portland for the relief of the poor of the city. This announcement was made yesterday by J. L. Miller, traveling passenger of the O-W-R. & N., who has just returned from a trip in Eastern Oregon.

The drives will be out of Stanfield, Pendleton, Hermiston, Echo and Umatilla. Wagons will follow the hunters and the rabbits will be sent to the nearest depot, where they will be shipped by the American Express free of charge. E. E. Cleaver, of Pendleton, and Mayor James Kyle, of Stanfield, are heading the Eastern Oregon drives.

## Great Semi-Annual

REDUCTION SALE Suit and Extra Pair Trousers

For the Price of the Suit Alone

Of the Same or Striped Material \$25 to \$45

Tailor for Young Men.

WILLIAM JERREMS' SONS, 108 THIRD STREET, F. F. Boody, Manager. Please Call for Your 1915 Calendar.

## A Concert Recital At Eilers Recital Hall

Music lovers, teachers and students are cordially invited to attend a free concert of the splendid

## JOHN M'CORMACK

Records, assisted by W. W. Allen, violinist, at Eilers Recital Hall, Broadway at Alder. The beautiful ballad singing of Mr. McCormack wins the hearts of all lovers of a glorious tenor voice; and the musically perfect Victor records leave nothing to be desired. Mr. Allen, the clever and artistic violinist, will appear as his own accompanist in several numbers and in a special demonstration number will also be accompanied by Arthur Nikisch on the Welte Mignon. Following is the programme:

- I. Sextette, from Lucia di Lammermoor.....Donizetti  
Mr. W. W. Allen, violin and Eilers Player Piano de Luxe.
- II. "Ah! Moon of My Delight" (from "In a Persian Garden") Lehmann  
John McCormack.
- III. Pariglio Cara, "Traviata".....Verdi  
Duet, Lucretia Bori and John McCormack.
- IV. Berceuse, from Jocelyn.....Godard  
John McCormack.  
Violin obligato by Fritz Kreisler.
- V. Hungarian Dance No. V.....Brahms  
W. W. Allen, violin.  
Accompanied by Arthur Nikisch—Welte-Mignon.
- VI. Quartet from "Rigoletto".....Verdi  
Bori, Jacoby, Werrenrath, McCormack.
- VII. a. Mother o' Mine.....Kipling-Tours  
b. Molly Brannigan.....Old Irish  
John McCormack.
- VIII. Cavatina.....Raff  
W. W. Allen.
- IX. Parle moi de ma mere, "Carmen".....Bizet  
Lucy Marsh, John McCormack.
- X. She Is Far From the Land.....Moore  
John McCormack.
- XI. Meditation, "Thais".....Massenet  
W. W. Allen, violin; Miss Chrysler at the piano.  
Wednesday evening, December 16, 1914, at 8 P. M.  
Complimentary tickets to this concert may be obtained at

## EILERS MUSIC HOUSE

Eilers Building, Broadway at Alder.

committee. About 5000 rabbits is the total bag expected.

**Alleged Holdup Is "Fake."**

After reporting that he had been robbed of \$35 at First and Davis streets last week, Alvin Frederickson, a farmer, yesterday confessed that the robbery was a fake, the police say. He will be tried on a charge of vagrancy.

## Featuring the Best-