

STAGG IS SENTENCED TO 10 TO 15 YEARS

Divorced Wife Will Help Kidnaper Obtain Pardon.

BRAINERD CASE DROPPED

Father Who Stole Son From Mother Exonerates Girl; Theft Not Premeditated.

TACOMA, Wash., Dec. 18.—George T. Stagg, former Tacoma and Seattle newspaper man, at noon today appeared before Superior Judge Fletcher and pleaded guilty to kidnapping his son, Bobby Stagg, September 14.

Stagg was sentenced to the state penitentiary for a term of from 10 to 15 years. The case against Miss Betty Brainerd, charged as an accomplice in the kidnapping, was dismissed by Judge Fletcher.

When Stagg, tall and good looking, appeared in court he was well dressed. He had grown a moustache, but his blonde hair had not been dyed as reported.

When asked if he had a statement to make he said: "The kidnapping was not premeditated. Miss Brainerd had nothing to do with it. She is blameless. I took the child on the spur of the moment without realizing the consequences."

Betty Brainerd Not Present.

Mrs. Edith Cunningham Stagg, divorced wife of the kidnaper, was in court when he entered his plea. Miss Brainerd was not present.

Stagg arrived in East Auburn, near here, late last night. He was met there by his attorney, Scott Z. Henderson, and several newspaper reporters. He was taken in an automobile to the home of his divorced wife here September 14. The child had been awarded to the mother in the divorce decree.

A nation-wide search for Stagg has been on since he took his 21-month-old son from the home of his divorced wife here September 14. The child had been awarded to the mother in the divorce decree.

Stagg eluded the officers, but Miss Betty Brainerd, who is alleged to have been in the automobile with Stagg when the kidnapping was accomplished, was arrested in October in New York City and returned here for trial. Her trial was to have begun next Tuesday.

The surrender of Stagg and the promise of immunity for Miss Brainerd was arranged between Prosecutor Askren and attorney for the woman. A bitter controversy between the Tacoma police department and Mr. Askren has developed over the release from prosecution of Miss Brainerd.

Wife to Work for Pardon. After Stagg was sentenced to prison his divorced wife, Edith Stagg, remarked while standing outside the courtroom: "I will help get him a pardon. I am not adamant."

While waiting outside the prosecuting attorney's office earlier in the morning, Mrs. Stagg made the remark: "I hate to see the father of my boy sent to the penitentiary."

It is the intention, Henderson said, to have Stagg taken at once to Walla Walla.

If the efforts of friends are successful in obtaining executive clemency, the young man's prison stay will not be prolonged much more than one year, if that long, it is predicted here.

IRISH TO RECEIVE AID

Hibernians Will Solicit Funds to Alleviate Suffering.

In answer to an appeal made recently by the lord mayor of Cork to help alleviate suffering in Ireland, members of the Ancient Order of Hibernians and the women's auxiliary have formed a committee in Portland. Its purpose being to solicit funds which will go directly to those in the Emerald Isle who are homeless and poverty-stricken.

At 2 o'clock this afternoon a special meeting of the committee in charge of the campaign will be held in Hibernia hall. At this conference plans for a mass meeting to be held in the future will be outlined.

Those who will conduct the campaign and compose the committee are Dr. Andrew C. Smith, president; John R. Murphy, vice-president; E. P. Sullivan, treasurer; and Anne Kearns, secretary.

FILIPINO TO BE HONORED

Tribute to Be Paid to Memory of Martyr-Hero.

Tribute to the martyr-hero of the Philippines—Dr. Jose Rizal Mercado—will be paid when prominent citizens of Portland and local Filipinos gather December 30, the 24th anniversary of the hero's death, at Columbia hall. The programme will be open at 8 P. M. Its feature being a playlet called "Uncle Sam, Give Me Liberty" written by Vincent Leonor.

Following a short musical programme, speeches delivered by Mayor Baker, Judge Gatens, Judge Rossman and Richard Deich, deputy district attorney, will be heard. Other speakers will be Vincent Leonor, Emilio Bonalilaw, Leopoldo Theodoro, Proceso Balabab and Mrs. J. W. Cassil.

Missing Man Is Arrested. Earl Kersting, for whom a warrant was issued last April, was taken into custody yesterday by Police Inspectors Niles and Horack as he was leaving a building near Fourth and Salmon streets. He is held for defrauding Mrs. M. E. Hinckley, 48 1/2 Union avenue, out of a \$25 board bill, according to the complaint on file against him. Kersting is said to have left town early in the spring. He had just returned yesterday when the police took him into custody.

New History Course Preferred. UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene, Dec. 18.—(Special.)—The University of Oregon, through its correspondence study department, has prepared a new course in Oregon history, covering such topics as "Rovers of the Sea," "Pathfinders to the Pacific," "The Log Cabin and Blockhouse Era," "New Oregon Trails," and 12 other important topics. The course is designed to meet the growing demand for the subject especially instanced in the interest of the Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers.



PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN AS VISITORS WERE LEAVING THE COURTHOUSE WEDNESDAY FOR TRIP TO THE DOCKS. Fifty-four county commissioners and judges from all over Oregon this year attended the fourth annual convention of their association held in the courthouse the earlier part of the week. The meeting was presided over by Judge Smith of Lakeview, retiring president.

Road matters, the 5 per cent limitation and handling of criminals and mental defectives were outstanding topics of discussion. In addition to the regular business sessions, several theater parties were held, and on Wednesday the visitors were taken on a boat excursion to municipal terminal No. 4 and through the Portland Woolen Mills. A banquet at the hotel the same night was the concluding event of the convention.

FISH 'POORLY NOURISHED'

LAKE OVERSTOCKED, PLEA OF ALLEGED LAWBREAKERS.

Prominent Seattle Men on Trial Produce "Permit Issued for Scientific Purposes."

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—Dr. W. T. Christensen of the Seattle port commission, Matt Gormley, port auditor, and J. C. Hunter, efficiency engineer of the commission, were tried in justice court at Ellensburg Friday on charges of fishing on Lost lake, a closed lake, on July 2 and September 5. Justice Flynn reserved decision until December 30, when the prosecuting attorney and attorneys for the defense are to submit briefs on legal points involved.

The men denied fishing on the lake July 2. They acknowledged making a big catch when they were there in September, but produced a "permit for scientific purposes" given to Dr. Christensen and party by L. H. Darwin, state game warden and fish commissioner. The September 5 case hinges on whether Darwin can give permits for lakes closed for propagation purposes.

Three children testified to seeing the men catch fish in the lake July 2, and seeing their baskets well filled with eastern brook trout, which are to be found only in Lost lake in that section. The defendants said they threw some salmon eggs into the lake to watch the fish come up. They came in such numbers and were so poorly nourished, they said, that the three men became convinced that the lake was overstocked and that for the best interests of the sport some fish should be taken out.

GRAZING COURSE ADDED College to Provide Trained Men to Assist Forest Service.

OREGON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, Corvallis, Dec. 18.—(Special.)—Federal forest service through W. R. Chapline, is looking for more

CORVALLIS HONORS MASON WITH 51-YEAR RECORD. Wallace Baldwin.

CORVALLIS, Or., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—Wallace Baldwin of Corvallis was the guest here Wednesday night of the Corvallis lodge No. 14 of Masons. A reception was held in his honor in commemoration of the fact that he had been a member of the Corvallis lodge for 51 years.

He has held all the local offices, is a 32-degree Mason and belongs to the Royal Arch and has been three times elected illustrious grand master of the royal and select masters of this state and has served as most excellent high priest of the Royal Arch Masons of Oregon.

Mr. Baldwin came to Corvallis in 1866. He served here on the city council, as mayor and as postmaster. In 1887 he was appointed commandant of the soldiers' home at Roseburg.

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TAX BUDGET APPROVED Clatsop Citizens Increase Levy Ordered by County Court.

ASTORIA, Or., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—The taxpayers of Clatsop county at the annual meeting this afternoon approved the tax budget as prepared by the county court, carrying taxes amounting to \$427,318.88, and added \$4800 more, one item being \$1800 for an additional Red Cross nurse and another \$1200 for the district attorney's office.

The appropriations approved include \$160,750 for highway improvements and \$48,000 for bridges.

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DRY LAWS HELD VIOLATED

HARRY BROLASKI AND DOUGLAS NEWTON CONVICTED.

San Franciscans Accused of Transactions in Whisky Running Into Thousands of Dollars.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 18.—Harry Brolaski and Douglas Newton were found guilty of conspiracy to violate the prohibition law by a jury in the United States district court here today. James Gamara, the third defendant, was acquitted.

The jury was out 46 hours, Judge Doolling having refused to accept reports yesterday that a deadlock had made agreement impossible. Referring to reports of wagers made on the jury's action, he said that those who believed in its integrity were entitled to "a run for their money."

The government charged that the defendants were involved in a plot, directed by Brolaski, to sell "exclusive rights" for illegal disposition of liquor in the San Joaquin valley. They were accused of transactions in whisky running into thousands of dollars.

Promises of protection, according to government witnesses, were based on the assumption that Loren Handley and Mrs. Glad K. Warburton, former prohibition enforcement directors for California, had been "lined up" by the defendants.

After the court had denied a motion for a new trial notice of appeal was filed.

Relief Organizations Unite. HOOD RIVER, Or., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—A joint meeting of citizens in charge of the European relief and near east relief organizations met at the commercial club today and arranged for combining campaigns, with all churches of the valley launching appeals for funds for Europe's starving children tomorrow.

Solicitors expect to raise the county's quota of \$4000 by Tuesday night. Solicitors are also asked to observe their districts and report on any local families needing charity.

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LIBRARY NEWLY FITTED

Willamette University Gives More Space to Books for Students.

WILLAMETTE UNIVERSITY, Salem, Or., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—A complete set of new furnishings arrived this week for the university library, which has been transferred to the second floor of remodeled Walter hall. The library, which will accommodate more than 100 students, is open until 9:30 P. M. and as a result is becoming a popular place for study. New books are arriving continually, some purchased by the university, others presented to the library by friends of the institution.

Professor William E. Kirk, head of the department of Latin and Greek, is the librarian, having a number of student assistants.

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