

CITY NEWS IN BRIEF

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AMUSEMENTS.

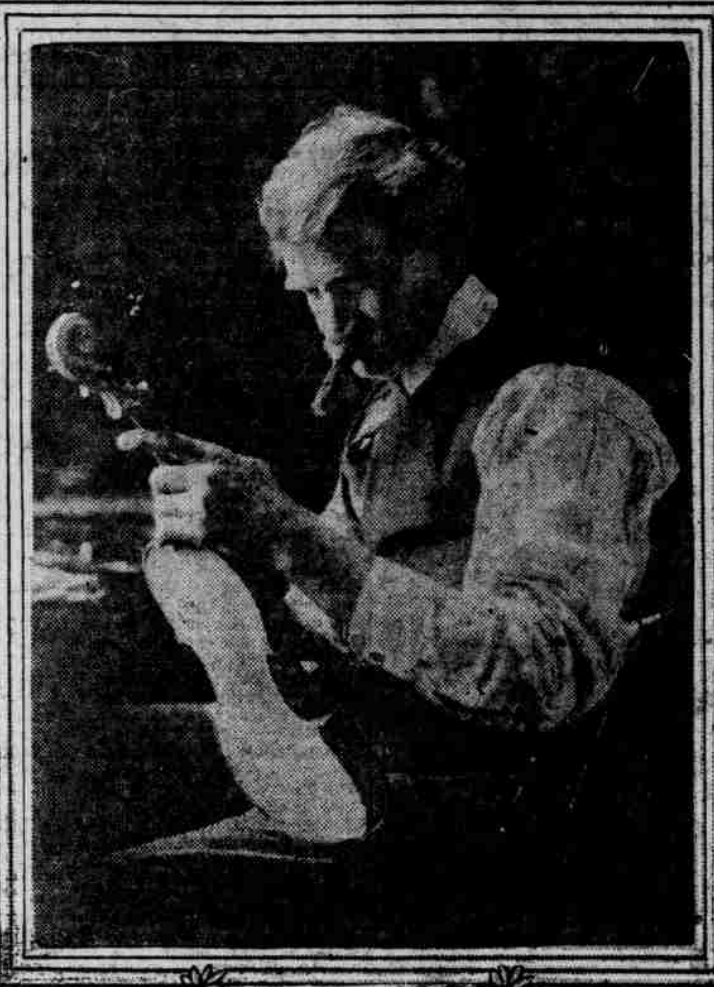
HIPPODROME (Broadway at Yamhill)
—Vaudville and moving pictures con-
tinuous daily, 1:15 to 11 P. M.
PANTAGES (Broadway at Alder)—Vau-
dville. Three shows daily, 2, 7 and 9:30
P. M.
THE OAKS (Amusement Park)—The
Armstrong Musical Comedy company.
Take cars at First and Alder.

SHERWOOD WANTS PICKERS.—There
is a heavy demand for berry pickers
in the Sherwood, Or., district.

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PANTAGES (Broadway at Alder)—Vau-
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P. M.
THE OAKS (Amusement Park)—The
Armstrong Musical Comedy company.
Take cars at First and Alder.

VIOLIN-MAKER OF PORTLAND
CELEBRATED FOR HIS SKILL

For More Than Half Century Robert Robinson, Now 72 Years Old,
Has Been Master of His Profession.



ROBERT ROBINSON.

LIVING alone in what he calls his
den, a dark room 10 feet square,
partitioned into a reception
room and workshop, the one hung
with musical instruments of all
sorts, the other littered with tools
and materials, is Robert Robinson,
fiddlemaker.

In quarters hardly larger than a
cell, situated in a secluded spot on
the second floor of the Russel
building, Fourth and Morrison
streets, dwells one of the most skill-
ful and one of the best-known (at
least to violinists) manufacturers of
violins in the United States. Few
persons know this. It is only by
seeking him out that he may be
found. Only those who have felt
his skill and faith in him as a
violin expert take their work to
him.

"To get to this man one first looks
for a stairway. This stairway is
not difficult of access, but there is
nothing upon it or by it to indicate
that it is a stairway. The stairs are
of a different material from those
of the building. There are no guiding
signs assisting the searcher to his
rooms.

The head of the stairs is reached,
the climber hears on his right the
strains of a violin, and his eye, fol-
lowing his ear, sights a dark en-
trance to a dark room. The door is
entered, two or three strangers are
cubed to one side, and a man with
silvery gray hair, blue eyes, a cigar-
stained mustache, a gray coat and
gray trousers of a different make
suddenly confronted and is addressed
by the interviewer, who, upon mak-
ing his errand known, is waved to a
chair in a room that is extremely
comfortable and interesting.

Robert Robinson is a violin maker
of 55 years' experience. Though he
looks as if he might be of French
descent, he is really of Scotch par-
tage. His name and his blue eyes,
heavy eyebrows and large mouth,
breaking at times into a toothless
smile, indicate this. If he did not
unreservedly tell you that he was
all of 72 years old, to look at him
you would never think it. He says
he has retained his health through
all his years and that he feels as
young today as he did in the days
when he first played the violin.

This violin maker avers that his
devotion to his profession is inter-
esting, and that he has been present
from childhood. When he was asked
what influences were brought to bear
to cause him to choose this extraor-
dinary profession as a life work, he
said, "It was born in me."

"In the periods when I was diverted
from it, I was all the time mad to
return," he said. "Violin making
was my profession. I was origin-
ally brought into contact with all
the masters through my acting as
a professional orchestra leader in
Boston for a long while. But I soon
became disgusted with my career as
a player and 35 years ago I made a
definite resolve never again to touch
a violin as a player.

"I have experimented in violin
making from that day on. I have
made many violins for different
persons. The masters have preferred
to have me repair work on their in-
struments rather than make them
new ones. However, at this time I
have an order from Kreisler for one
of my violins. I have four fiddles
started. Just now I do not know
which one Kreisler will get."

Mr. Robinson is a prodigious and
an untiring worker. He says he
works day and night and seldom
rests.
"I have been that way since I was
a child," he says. My grandmother
used to rock me in her arms at times
when I was a wee babe, but when
she would place me in the cradle to
sleep I would let out a terrible
squeal. During the world's fair at
Chicago, when the famous Hindi
philosopher, Vivakannanda, adept in
yogiism, came to this country, I
talked all night on the sleeper with
him from St. Paul to Chicago.

"Even now, to rest myself, I go to
a moving picture show between the
hours of 11 P. M. and 2 A. M. and
come back afterward to work."

Mr. Robinson loves to talk of the
people he knows.
"Fritz Kreisler is the greatest man
in the world today," he de-
clared.
"Of course, mean the greatest
musician," was suggested.
"I mean he is the greatest real
man in the world," he repeated with
emphasis. "He is an artist, a mu-
sician, a graduate scientist; he
speaks eight different languages;
is a big man publicly, is entertain-
ing and interesting privately; is un-
conceited and is entirely approach-
able by anyone."

"Elman was wonderful," he said,
and he grew exuberant in speaking
of Kathleen Parlow.
"She is one of the greatest of the
artists of the day," he said. "And
do you know that one of our own
local violinists, this Frenchman,
Leplat, is great? When Kathleen
Parlow was here she heard him play
and said to him afterward, 'Why
Mr. Leplat, what are you doing in
this town? You should be out in
the world with the greatest of us.'
But the Frenchman is too retiring.
He does not want fame.
"I believe that Heifetz has been

ber areas and cultivations of black
currants for traces of the disease.
It was thought until this fall that the
western timber until a report of its
discovery in British Columbia and
western Washington was made.
Measurements are being taken promptly
to arrest its growth before it in-
vades the great white pine districts
of northern Idaho.

One of the peculiar characteristics
of this disease is its inability to
spread from pine tree to pine tree.
It can only be transferred from a
pine tree to currant or goose-
berry bush, cultivated plants being
especially susceptible to the infec-
tion. From these bushes it is then
spread to pine trees of the five
needles or white pine variety.

FARM LOANS \$2,163,456

AGRICULTURAL AND CATTLE
INTERESTS BENEFITED.

Federal Aid in Washington State
and Idaho Includes Wheat
Growers on Big Scale.

SPOKANE, Wash., July 8.—Agricul-
tural and livestock interests of
Washington have received \$2,162,456
in loans through the war finance
corporation, according to a recapit-
ulation by R. L. Rutter, president
of the Spokane Eastern Trust
company, chairman of the Wash-
ington agricultural agency, which
approves the loans and recommends
them to the war finance corpora-
tion.

In a letter to Eugene Meyer Jr.,
managing director of the corpora-
tion, Mr. Rutter declares this finan-
cial assistance "has been a great
benefit to these interests."
The board has approved for the agency
\$2 applications for \$208,726 and has
made \$194,174. The advance
made to the Idaho-Washington
Wheat Growers' association, \$1,351,726,
has been paid back to the
war finance corporation.

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DRUGGISTS TO CONVENE

State Association of Retailers Will
Gather at Roseburg.

Oregon retail druggists will hold
their convention at Roseburg this
year on July 11-13, according to an
announcement made yesterday by
the executive secretary of the Ore-
gon Pharmaceutical association.

Portland and vicinity druggists
are planning to leave for Roseburg
by automobile early tomorrow morn-
ing. They will make a stop at Al-
bany, where they will be entertained
by the local druggists. Another stop will
be made at Cottage Grove, where they
will be received by their president,
Claude Kgm, and other druggists of
Cottage Grove.

There is a possibility that Gov-
ernor Olcott will attend one session
of the convention and will address
the members on the history of the
legislation affecting druggists and
doctors will be discussed during the
convention.

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PRESBYTERIANS TO MEET

OREGON SYNOD SESSION TO
BE HELD AT CORVALLIS.

Moderator of General Assembly
and Others Scheduled for Ad-
dresses Coming Week.

OREGON AGRICULTURAL COL-
LEGE, Corvallis, July 8.—(Special).—
The Presbyterian synod of Oregon
will hold its 32d annual session on
the campus next week. The visit-
ors will be cared for in the dormi-
tories and will have the use of the
swimming pool, baseball field and
other facilities for recreation.

For the first time the moderator
of the Presbyterian general assem-
bly will address the Oregon synod.
Rev. C. C. Hayes has been scheduled
to appear before the visiting ministers.
A series of Bible lectures entitled
"Morning Hours With Jesus" will
be delivered by Rev. J. A. Vance,
pastor of the First Presbyterian
church at Detroit, Mich., who will
be here during the entire session.

Other speakers will include Dr.
Edward T. Devine, editor of the Sur-
vey; R. M. Woolley of the University
of Michigan; A. F. McClatchey of the
New Era movement; H. H. Smith,
expert on church publicity; Charles
H. McDonald, representing the men's
work committee; Fred J. Newton, a
missionary from India; W. A.
Squires, representing religious edu-
cation; Varian Banks, treasurer of
the board of home missions; and Mrs.
Fletcher Linn, president of the
Woman's Synodical Missionary soci-
ety.

THE
Library Association
OF PORTLAND

offers a nine months' training
course in the methods used in
the Portland Public Library.
The examinations will be held
on August 15, and the class
will begin work in October.
Applicants must be between
thirty and thirty-five and must have
had at least a high school educa-
tion.
Apply in person to librarian
for particulars.

COMMERCIAL SAFE DEPOSIT VAULTS.

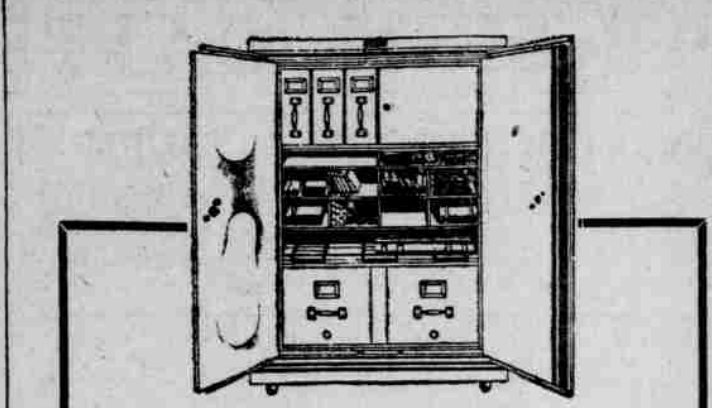
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STUDENTS STUDY RUST
Investigation of White Pine to Be
Aided by University.

MOSCOW, Idaho, July 8.—The sur-
vey of the timber sections of the
state to investigate the spread of
the white pine blister rust will be
carried on this summer through the
co-operative efforts of the Uni-
versity of Idaho school of forestry and
the federal government, according
to S. E. Dettler, in charge of the
federal investigation.