

DAYTON BANKER CREATES WONDER BY DISAPPEARING

Arthur C. Probert Drops Business and Takes French Leave, Stirring Up Community to High Pitch of Excitement.

Some Think He Has Committed Suicide and Apply to Court for Appointment of Receiver--Lived Under Cloud Elsewhere But New Friends Thought He Was Now Doing Well and Had Fully Reformed

Dayton, Ore., March 3.—A diligently prosecuted search reveals no trace of Arthur C. Probert, manager and sole owner of the State Savings bank, of this city, whose mysterious disappearance yesterday furnished the topic for lively discussion among depositors and citizens in general. Many believe that the banker has committed suicide, and some aver they heard shots in a clump of trees in the edge of town just after dawn yesterday.

The citizens are anxious to clear up the mystery and to insure an immediate investigation of the affairs of the bank have applied to the court for the appointment of a receiver.

For some time past a rumor, apparently well founded, credited Probert with having been involved in several transactions of such a questionable nature as to bring upon him the attention of the police in various localities. It is alleged that he is under a cloud in California for some offense. It is said that he did not deny this charge, but asserted that he had cleared himself of all stigma. It is also asserted that he came within the pale of the law in Wisconsin, as the result of the failure of his bank at Washburn, in that state. He was convicted of wrong-doing and sentenced to serve six months in jail.

Probert arrived here from Chicago via Portland two months ago, well supplied with letters of recommendation and other credentials. He immediately opened his bank and by his

suave manner and business like demeanor secured a clientele, and to all appearances his bank was in a prosperous condition.

Friends state that after his release from prison at Washburn, he paid creditors 100 cents on the dollar, and was twice elected mayor of the town.

WARRANT FOR ARREST.

Charged by Citizens at McMinnville With Being an Embezzler.

Portland, March 3.—Word was received here tonight that a warrant had been issued at McMinnville, in this state, for the arrest of Arthur C. Probert, the Dayton bank owner who so mysteriously disappeared yesterday. The warrant charges Probert with embezzlement, the complaint being sworn to by residents of McMinnville. Telegraphic descriptions of the man have been sent to many sections of the country. It is estimated that the bank contained about \$7000 in money and negotiable securities.

Word was received from Dayton tonight that the vault of the bank would be opened tomorrow.

STEP TOWARD SETTLEMENT.

Executive Officials of Contending Roads Meet to Adjust Rate War.

New York, March 3.—A step toward the settlement of the grain rate war which has robbed the Chicago-Atlantic port railway lines of practically all

grain traffic from the central west has been taken at a meeting here. Executive officials of the roads in the Central Traffic Association met the executive officials of the Trunk lines and appointed a committee to draw up a plan for the purpose of establishing harmony between the eastern railroads and the lines with gulf port terminals. Oscar G. Murry, president of the Baltimore & Ohio, will be chairman of the committee and representatives of the Lake Shore, the Pennsylvania, the Big Four and the Clover Leaf will serve with him.

This committee was vested with power to make an agreement with the southwestern lines on any reasonable basis which would guarantee a maintenance of a fixed schedule between the eastern lines and gulf port roads.

The question which it is thought to adjust involves all classes of traffic for export but leaves in status quo the import rate rivalry between the Gulf ports and the northern Atlantic ports which has caused the eastern lines much uneasiness.

The fight to build up the export tonnage of the gulf port lines at the expense of the eastern lines has centered about the grain rates, although cuts were made in other classes of freight.

Insane Woman's Capers.

Butte, Mont., March 3.—Advices from Lethbridge, N. W. T., state that on Monday evening an insane woman made a bold attempt to hold up the local postoffice. The postmaster and assistants were busily engaged when, without rapping, a well dressed young woman entered the private working apartments of the postoffice.

Inquiring if it was the postoffice, she was gently informed it was, but was told of the proper place for transacting business. After further conversation the officials were convinced of her insanity, but considering her harmless, they permitted her to remain within the sanctum. Quick as a flash the stranger seized a bundle of registered and ordinary letters and made a dash for the lobby. Two of the assistants had her by the clothing, calling meanwhile for the postmaster, who overtook her at the front door and made her disgorge her plunder, but not until after a severe tussle ensued, in which some of the letters were badly damaged.

A warrant for her arrest was issued immediately and she was conveyed to the mounted police guard-room.

SCOTTISH DAY PROGRAM.

Exercises to Be Held at the High School This Afternoon.

A Scottish day program will be rendered by the pupils of the high school this afternoon. The exercises will be commenced at 1:40 and an invitation has been extended to the public to attend. The program is as follows:

- Song....."Auld Lang Syne" School.
- Recitation.."The Thistle of Scotland" Ora Scovell.
- Essay....."Sir Walter Scott" Henry Bayard.
- Recitation....."Norval" Amy Rannels.
- Essay....."Thomas Carlyle" Edith Butts.
- Instrumental solo....Pauline Kirchhoff
- Recitation.."Meeting Between James Fitz James and Roderick Dhu" Rose Mattson.
- Essay....."Robert Burns" Lottie Hess.
- Recitation....."The Hunkle School" Grace Morton.
- Essay....."Lorna Doone Reviewed" Baldwin Davies.
- Song....."Annie Laurie" School.
- Oration....."A Scotch Hero" George Poysky.
- Recitation.."The Men of Drumtochty" James Hegart.
- Original story.."How Jamie Was Humbled" Anna Bergman.
- Oration....."Mary, Queen of Scots" Emma Shedd.
- Song....."Comin' Thro' the Rye" School.

PETER GRANT WOULD WHIP 'EM.

Has No Use For Husbands Who Gamble Away Their Earnings.

"Any man who loses the money which he needs for the support of his wife and children in a gambling house ought to be publicly whipped, and I would like to have the job."

This is the statement made this afternoon by Peter Grant, owner of the Portland club, says the Journal. It was brought forth by the case of Mrs. M. Guber, who came here from Seattle in an attempt to collect \$200 from the

gambling house which she said her husband lost there.

"I saw the woman at the city jail last night," said Mr. Grant. "I was sent for by the chief of police and after listening to her I found her in a more reasonable frame of mind than she was. I had a talk with my partner over the telephone. He told me that her husband had lost about \$25 or \$30 in our house. The woman told me a hard luck story and said that she and her children had nothing to eat. I asked her what she wanted and she told me that \$100 would be all right. Her husband did not lose that sum, but as the woman was in very poor circumstances I told her I would give her that sum and also a ticket to Seattle. I gave her some silver so she could live until she got to her home. She signed a receipt for the money. The receipt is now in the hands of the clerk of the police court. There are so many people who come to me with stories of having lost money that I have to investigate every one."

Mrs. Gluber appeared at the Portland club entrance night before last about 7:30 o'clock. She led a little girl, probably five years old. She demanded of Peter Grant the return of \$200 which she said her husband had lost there. Grant referred her to the chief of police or the district attorney. She insisted on entering the gambling house and when Grant tried to prevent her from entering she attacked him with an umbrella creating a scene and attracting a large crowd. Her husband keeps a second hand store on Washington street, Seattle. He came to Portland last week, sold a bill of goods and gambled away the money. His wife immediately on his return home took train for Portland and demanded back his losses.

Steamer Fulton Can Be Saved

Such Is the Opinion of the Portland Agent of California and Oregon Steamship Co.

F. P. Baumgartner, Portland agent of the California & Oregon Coast Steamship Company, is of the opinion that the steamer Fulton, which went on the beach last week at Port Orford, can be saved. If the weather remains fair he says another attempt will be made to float her. A steamer equipped with a complete wrecking outfit will be sent from San Francisco for this purpose.

Captain Lee and the first officer are still aboard the Fulton. By "cooning" a two-inch cable line which connects the steamer with the shore is their only means of going back and forth. The following account of the wreck is given in the Port Orford Tribune:

"Then occurred one of the wildest scenes ever witnessed at Port Orford. Regardless of the raging storm about all the men, women and children of the town lined the shore, and the men were all ready and anxious to render all assistance possible. The mountains of seas were breaking entirely over the vessel, and soon the intervening water was a floating mass of lumber. One boat was broken; another boat was launched with five men on board, and was capsized. The boat was righted, but soon capsized again. The second mate was killed by drifting lumber, and disappeared from view. Three of the men reached shore on the lumber. The other man hung to the side of the ship for a time, but was struck with lumber and badly hurt, but succeeded in drifting ashore on the timber. The cook made a brave effort to reach shore with a line, but failed and was hauled back on board completely exhausted. A line was at last made to drift ashore by means of a life preserver and then the shore people were able to send a double line on board. A small life raft was then launched and the men were hauled ashore through the raging sea, two and three at a time."

DON'T LOOK CROSS.

Of course, if you can't help it, then that ends the matter. But we believe you can. It's not a matter of will power. The world isn't all going to pieces. The whole trouble is with your liver, and just one of Ayer's Pills each night will remove all this trouble.

Well Known Lawyer Dead.

Roanoke, Va., March 3.—John S. Crockett, a well known lawyer of Wytheville, Va., died today at that place. During an exciting campaign of this state 25 years ago Mr. Crockett fought a duel with ex-Congressman John S. Wise. Nettr was hurt. Crockett practiced law in Seattle for a number of years.

Last Call For The Wind-up!

ONE WEEK MORE OF THE

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Men's and Youth's Suits.

Remember all suits included in this sale are sold at

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