

## GRAND JURY POINTS OUT THEIR DUTY

### Declares That City Officials Must See to Enforcement of Laws Regulating Children's Conduct.

### Appalling Condition of Affairs in Astoria Demands Prompt and Vigorous Action.

## STATE OFFICIALS TO STEP IN

### If Police Are Unable to Put Stop to Practice of Juveniles Who Roam Streets at All Hours of Night.

If the officials of the city of Astoria continue to fail to enforce the ordinances prohibiting children from roaming the streets after certain hours, the authorities of the state will take a hand in the matter. Should the state authorities take up the problem, they will do so most vigorously, for they are determined that youthful indiscretion shall be curtailed at once, and eventually obliterated.

The final report of the grand jury was submitted last evening, and in it the appalling conditions existing in Astoria are dealt with. The grand jury condemns the practice which seems to be prevalent in the city of permitting children of both sexes to roam the streets at almost any hour of the day or night, and attributes to this practice the vice which has resulted in so many juvenile cases during the past two years. The jury recommends that the city authorities take steps to enforce the ordinances which ought to be made to apply in such cases, and which provide that children shall not be on the streets after certain hours.

### The City's Bad Record.

During the past two years many juvenile cases have been reported to the district attorney's office, and for a time the attention of state and county officials was directed almost wholly to the cases of children. At the last term of the circuit court two men were sent to the penitentiary for criminal assault, and at the term of court just closed another was sent to prison for a similar offense. The number of little girls involved at the time of the conviction of Sipola and Adams was surprising, and a condition of affairs was unearthed that was actually appalling.

The grand jury attributes this to the practice of permitting children to run the streets. Girls of 13 to 17 may be seen on the streets late at night, especially during the summer months, and the only wonder is that there have not been more arrests and convictions. The city ordinances fully cover the matter, but it is difficult for the police to enforce the regulations without the assistance of parents.

### Laws Must Be Enforced.

However, the law must be rigidly enforced, and if the city officials are unable to do so those of the state and county will take up the matter. The grand jury plainly intimates that the state authorities should step in if the police fail to remedy the evil.

"The morals of children are becoming lower every year, and prompt and vigorous steps must be taken to curb the general downward tendency," said a prominent county official last evening. "The report of the grand jury is perhaps in the nature of a warning to the police, and if conditions do not improve you may rest assured the state officials will step in. Children must be kept off the streets and removed from the influence of evil associates. Until this is done we may expect to have one or more cases for assault on every term of court."

### Other Matters Reported Upon.

The report includes a statement concerning the criminal cases brought before the grand jury for investigation. Five true bills and two not true bills were returned. The not true bills were returned in the cases of the George Hansen and the state Cook. True bills were returned in cases against Harry Hog, Huber, Henry Miller and

Jay Saylor, Hogue, Huber and Miller have been sent to the penitentiary; the Saylor boys will be tried this week. The grand jury evidently was not made up of bouquet-throwers, but nevertheless it compliments the county court up on the steps taken to provide a new court house for the county. The grand jury examined the foundation and the work thus far done on the new building and on the

the grand jury also considered the question of care of the county poor, and recommends that the county court be very careful in considering applications for assistance. No recommendation is made with reference to the mooted proposal for a county poor farm.

Evidently the grand jury was satisfied with the city hall construction, for no reference to that building is made in the report, nor, indeed, to any other municipal proposition excepting the violation of the curfew ordinance.

## THREE BRUTES.

### Torture Aged Couple to Obtain Their Money.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., Sept. 24.—Three masked robbers who broke in the house of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Gibbons, residing near Boaburg, have tortured the aged couple in an effort to find hidden money.

Gibbons and his wife were pulled from bed and asked where their money was hidden. They denied having any and when threatened continued their denial. Gibbons was then thrown back on the bed while the robbers kicked and choked his wife until she became unconscious and probably will die.

The robbers fled but one was captured and taken to jail under heavy guard.

## AGENT OF BLACK HAND.

### Italian Boy Kidnaped Has Been Apprehended.

New York, Sept. 24.—Antonio Cuccozza, the 16-year-old Italian who was arrested in connection with the recent mysterious kidnaping of Antonio Mannino, the 9-year-old son of a wealthy Brooklyn contractor, has pleaded guilty. He was charged with having lured the child to Manhattan as the agent of the kidnapers who released Mannino after several days and have thus far eluded the police.

Cuccozza disclaimed all knowledge of the mysterious "black hand" and the judge smiled when the boy gave it as his opinion that there is no such organization. He will be sentenced later.

## HIT HIM AGAIN.

### Way to Man's Heart is Through His Stomach.

Newcastle, Pa., Sept. 24.—Mrs. Charles W. Foulks of this city, principal speaker at the 21st annual convention of the Lawrence County Woman's Christian Temperance Union has advocated a strike among the married women if their husbands refuse to give the right of suffrage so the women can vote down the liquor traffic. She said:

"If the men do not recognize our right to political suffrage the women should retaliate by refusing to cook for the men. In this manner the men will soon be brought to time and will recognize a woman's power."

## ENGINE MEN STRIKE.

### Trains in Italy Stopped for Lack of Men.

Naples, Sept. 24.—Though there has been a cessation of the general strike in Italy there is still on a strike of 2356 engine drivers and stokers against their chief engineer. At first it was considered of little importance but it now seems that it may spread to a serious extent. Some railway trains have been forced to cease running because of a lack of engine drivers.

## MANY INDIANS WILL GATHER.

### Five Thousand to Choose Successor to Late Chief Joseph.

Spokane, Sept. 24.—A special to the Astorian from Lawton, Okla., says that a large number of Indians are expected to gather at Lawton, Okla., to choose a successor to the late Chief Joseph.

## SIX PORT ARTHUR FORTS SAID TO HAVE BEEN TAKEN AND JAPS ARE SANGUINE

### Tokio Satisfied That Fall of Beleaguered Post Must Occur Soon and Are Jubilant in Consequence.

### Reports From Mukden Are Conflicting, but the Japs Are Moving Forward Very Slowly—General Stakelberg Is Not Included in the Disgrace of General Orloff, but Is Commended for His Heroic Conduct.

Various reports regarding the situation in the far east were received today, but they give no indication of any new movements. The most interesting information from St. Petersburg is the statement that General Orloff, upon whom was placed the blame for the step necessitating the abandonment of Liao Yang will be detached from the Manchurian army and given another command in European Russia or retired. At Tokio the belief is expressed that the Japanese have captured six of the forts at Port Arthur, and the downfall of the place is confidently expected.

Tokio, Sept. 24.—It is believed the Japanese have captured six of the forts of the second line of defenses at Port Arthur since September 19, and hope of speedy reduction of the fortress is running high.

## BATTLE IS IMPENDING.

### Russians Impatiently Awaiting Arrival of the Japanese.

Harbin, Sept. 24.—A Japanese column is reported to be advancing along the Liao river on Tie pass, and the Russian troops are impatiently awaiting the engagement.

## REPORTS ARE CONFLICTING.

### Mukden Unable to Give Definite Statement of Situation.

Mukden, Sept. 24.—The situation can not be definitely stated, as each day brings forth conflicting reports. One day it is said the Russians expect a Japanese attack, and the next that the Russians are assuming the offensive. According to a Chinese report, the Japanese are engaged in fortifying Liao Yang, and have completely demolished the railroad bridge over the Taitze river, of which the Russians only succeeded in burning the woodwork.

## RUSSIANS ARE SANGUINE.

### Believe Port Arthur Will Hold Out Against Japanese.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 24.—The situation on the Hun river remains in an uncertain condition. One correspondent of the Associated Press wires from Mukden that the greatest uncertainty prevails as to whether Kuropatkin will accept or refuse battle. Another Associated Press correspondent, telegraphing from Harbin on the same date, says it is rumored a Japanese column is moving up the Liao river, threatening Tie pass. Meanwhile the advance of the main Japanese forces continue extremely slow.

The general staff has not received a report of the fighting September 20 at Sun Lun Yu, mentioned in the report of Oyama, the Japanese commander, in which it is claimed the Japanese drove the Russians north.

It is alleged the defeat of the Russians at Sun Lun Yu was probably a trifling affair, which Kuropatkin did not think deserving of mention. The report of the arrival of several shipments of provisions, medicine and ammunition at Port Arthur is causing satisfaction, and strengthens the conviction that the fortress will hold out. The ability of vessels to enter Port Arthur is taken to indicate that the Japanese blockade is by no means as effective as in the earlier stages of the siege.

## STAKELBERG WAS BRAVE.

### Not Included in the Disgrace of Russian General Orloff.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 24.—The rumor that General Stakelberg is included in the disgrace of General Orloff is not true. Kuropatkin amended the original report, in which he criticized Stakelberg, and now exonerates the latter of all

charges prior to Christie's trial, is unfounded. According to the officers Christie expected to find \$1000, but succeeded in unearthing only some old clothing. The find, however, is said to be important, as the clothes are believed to be those Hammond used the time of the first north coast limited robbery at Bearmouth in 1902, when Engineer Dan O'Neill was killed. The evidence found, it is said, may yet be used and result in taking Hammond from the penitentiary to be tried on a charge of murder.

## CARRIE NATION GETTING READY.

### Promises to Start Something in the Awful Town of Wichita.

Topeka, Kan., Sept. 24.—Carrie Nation has issued an appeal to the mothers, wives and daughters of Kansas to join her crusade. In part she says: "I have frequent appeals from poor, heartbroken mothers all over the country to come and help save their sons, but from no place have I as many as from Wichita, Kan. Last week two agonizing appeals came to me. 'I can not turn a deaf ear to them, and am now resolved by the help of Almighty God, to go to that awful city of death and murder. I ask the women over the state and elsewhere to meet there September 28. Bring your hatchets! I will pay the railroad fare of those not able.'

## INSANITY PLEA SAVES HER.

### Woman Who Strangled Granddaughter Freed by Spokane Jury.

Spokane, Sept. 24.—The jury in the case of Mrs. Jeannette Harris of North Yakima, who killed the infant son of her unmarried daughter by strangling it in a thicket in the outskirts of Spokane, brought in a verdict of not guilty tonight. A strong defense of insanity was made by Mrs. Harris' attorneys.

The woman brought the child here and tried to place the baby in the orphan's home. Failing, she went to a secluded place, tied a cord around the baby's neck and strangled it. Her queer actions led to her arrest before her return to North Yakima. She confessed the deed and guided the officers to the scene.

## BANANAS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE.

### Engineer Raises a Crop From a Home-Grown Tree.

Manchester, N. H., Sept. 24.—That bananas can be grown in New England has been demonstrated by J. Lasalle, engineer of a pumping station here. He distributed his first crop the other day among his friends. Mr. Lasalle sent south six months ago and obtained a banana bulb, which he planted in a tub. It began growing and kept on growing, until now it is 15 feet high. Until last fall nothing resembling the fruit was in evidence. At that time a bunch in embryo formed and continued to grow, until Monday, when Mr. Lasalle picked it off and brought it to the city.

## FUNSTON STARTS EAST.

### General Williams, His Successor, to Arrive September 27.

Portland, Sept. 24.—General Funston, accompanied by Mrs. Funston and sons, McArthur and Frederick, left tonight in the private car of General Manager E. E. Calvin of the Hartman system over the O. R. & N. to Chicago, where Funston will assume command of the department of the lakes. General Constant Williams, who succeeds Funston in command of the department of the Columbia, will reach Portland September 27, accompanied by Mrs. Williams and daughter, Mrs. Croxton.

## Irrigation Project Jeopardized.

Butte, Mont., Sept. 24.—A Miner special from Missoula says that the Big Blackfoot Milling Company, one of the Amalgamated Copper Company's lumbering interests, has given notice that it will contest the building of a dam by a syndicate of eastern men, headed by Samuel Dinsmore on the Big Blackfoot river above Bonner. The proposed dam is part of a gigantic irrigation scheme.

## Big Naval Increase.

Berlin, Sept. 24.—The naval budget contains estimates for an increase in the personnel to 40,000 officers and men.

## Peru's New President.

Lima, Peru, Sept. 24.—Jose Pardo assumed the presidency of Peru today, amid great festivities.

## MANY DEAD IN FEARFUL COLLISION

### Two Passenger Trains Meet on Same Track Near Hodges, Tenn., and Fifty-six Are Killed.

### Orders Governing Trains Are Disregarded and Crash Comes at Sharp Curve.

## ENGINEER PROBABLY ASLEEP

### Scenes of the Utmost Horror Are Witnessed by Those of the Passengers Who Escaped Death.

Knoxville, Tenn., Sept. 24.—Running on a roadbed supposedly in high condition of maintenance, and having about them every safeguard known to the modern railroad, two trains on the Southern railway, carrying heavy lists of passengers, came together in frightful head-on collision near Hodges, Tenn., today, sending 54 people to their death and injuring 120, of whom several probably will die. Some of the bodies have not been recovered and many remain unidentified.

The appalling loss of life and the maiming of the living resulted apparently from the disregarding of orders given the two trains to meet at the station, which for a long time had been the regular meeting point. This action on the part of the engineer of the westbound train was made the more inexplicable by the fact that the accident happened in broad daylight, and, according to the best information obtainable, he had the order in a little frame in front of him as the engine rushed by the station and a mile and a half further on came full upon the eastbound passenger train. The possibility exists that the ill-fated engineer had been asleep.

## Trains Meet on Sharp Curve.

The trains were on time and not making over 35 miles an hour, yet the impact as they rounded the curve and came suddenly upon each other was frightful. Both engines and the major portions of both trains were demolished, and why the orders were disregarded or misinterpreted probably will never be known, as both engineers were crushed, their bodies remaining for hours under the wreckage.

The collision was between the eastbound passenger and the westbound passenger from Bristol. The eastbound was a heavy train, carrying three Pullmans, two day coaches, mail and baggage cars. The other was a light local train. The greatest loss of life occurred in the eastbound train, while in the westbound train only the engineer and firemen were killed. Relief trains were dispatched from Knoxville within an hour and all the physicians in the vicinity of the wreck were doing all they could when the local corps arrived.

## Fearful Scenes Followed.

John W. Brown of Rogersville, Tenn., a newspaper editor, was in the coach of the westbound train. When the fearful jolt came, he said, all the seats in the car were torn loose and people and seats hurled to the front end of the car. "I left the car," said Brown, "as soon as I could and walked to the main part of the wreck. The most terrible sight I ever witnessed met my eyes. I saw a woman pinned on a piece of split timber, which had gone completely through her body. A little child, quivering in death's agony, lay beneath the woman. I saw the child die, and within a few feet of her lay a woman's head. The decapitated body was several feet away. Another little girl, whose body was fearfully mangled, was piteously calling for her mother. I have since learned that both parents were killed. I heard one woman terribly mangled, praying to be spared for her children, but death ensued in a few minutes."

Congressman H. Gibson of Tennessee was a passenger in the day coach of the eastbound train. He and another man were the only persons to escape alive from the demolished car.

Torn