MAY FORM VIGILANTE COMMITTEE

Police of Metropolis Powerless to Suppress Numerous Assaults Upon Women and Children—Record of Crime Increases.

Eight Young Girls Victims of Day's Assaults—Some Perpetrators Caught and One Has Narrow Escape From Being Hung.

(United Press by Special Leased Wire.)

New York, Aug. 3.—New York tonight faces a situation similar to that which brought into existence vigilante committees in the "wild west" when necessity compelled their organization. With the crime wave rolling higher, the police department has reached the limit of its resources. If law's paid guardians cannot protect women and children, many citizens argue, there is nothing left for the people but to take their case into their own hands.

To Hunt Assailants.

When he called all the plain-clothes men in various precincts and all officers serving on special details off their work and ordered them today to direct their entire attention to hunting down assailants of women and children, Commissioner Bingham admitted he had played his last card. In spite of this precaution, a new record for assaults and attacks was reached. Eight young women and mere girls were the victims. In several cases the assailants were captured by citizens who happened to be near.

In one instance New York came near having a lynching. Martin Sale, alleged to have attempted to choke Anna Rogers to death, was dragged to a convenient electric light pole and a crowd was just preparing to string him up when the police rescued him.

Catch a Murderer.

Developments today in the murder of the 8-year-old Kattie Retschler, maltreated and killed in a First avenue cellar, have encouraged the police to believe they have caught the murderer. Luigi Espisto, one of the four brothers who keep a fruit stand over the cellar where Kattie's body was found, gave such unsatisfactory answers that Inspector McCaffery thinks he is worth holding.

As a final precaution to prevent further outrages, policemen will be sent out to make a house-to-house canvass to warn parents against allowing girls to play on the streets or venture out of their homes unless escorted.

S. P. TRAIN LATE ELEVEN HOURS

Delay Means Loss of Two Days in Portland's Business World.

The Southern Pacific train from San Francisco which was due yesterday morning at 7:25 o'clock, ambled into the Union depot in two sections last night at 6:15—not quite 11 hours behind schedule time. No reason is given for the delay.

Passengers and hotel clerks said unkind things about the railway management while mail clerks and carriers rejoiced to think that they did not have to handle the heavy mails which should have been distributed yesterday. Business men who expected to dispose of the business contained in the mail yesterday, frowned and said things none too softly when they realized they would have to hold off their customers until Monday.

The delayed train is said to have cost Portland merchants many dollars because the mails contained orders for goods that must be shipped in a limited time else the orders stand cancelled. The delay meant two days' loss in Portland's business world.

SECRETARY WILSON TO REACH PORTLAND TODAY

Man Who Built Up Agricultural Department Will Confer on Important Matters With Local Citizens for Several Days—Committee Will Meet Visitor.

James Wilson, Secretary of Agriculture.

James Wilson, secretary of agriculture, will arrive in Portland this morning at 7 o'clock from the north. Rooms have been engaged at the Portland hotel to which he will be accompanied by a committee of business men representing the Commercial club.

No definite arrangements have been made for Secretary Wilson's entertainment while in Portland, nor is the length of his visit known, although it is expected he will stay several days. There are many matters of importance in which Portland citizens have an interest which will be taken up with Secretary Wilson in an effort to secure his cooperation.

Secretary Wilson has been in the Pacific northwest for several weeks, spending most of his time in Washington.

James Wilson has been secretary of agriculture for 10 years. Presidents have come and gone, but he has been there consecutively during that period.

There were only two secretaries of agriculture before he went into office. "When I came here," he said two years ago, "I found that the department of agriculture consisted of a few scientists and a couple of roll-top desks."

Department Was a Joke.

Prior to his day the department is said to have been a good deal of a joke. Jerry Rusk had been the first secretary of agriculture. The department had been created, it is said, not because anybody believed there was the least reason or even excuse for such a department, but to satisfy the farmers, who had caused a disturbance in politics by means of the farmers' alliance. The secretary of agriculture was simply expected to keep the farmers quiet.

Rusk was a farmer and took his job seriously. He was succeeded by J. Sterling Morton, a Cleveland Democrat, and a man of culture and brains. He regarded the office as entirely useless and accepted the cabinet position with profound disfavor. His first annual report was returned to him by President Cleveland.

Protected Home Market.

Ten years ago Wilson became secretary and has been in that position ever since. He immediately made the job worth while. He had an idea of protecting the home market and taking all the foreign market he could get. He has followed out that idea.

He did not think that he was there to keep the farmers quiet, but to develop to its utmost the industry which he represented. He has investigated conditions in various parts of the world. He learned that in Finland huge alcohol potatoes are grown. He brought them to this country, where they were naturalized, not for eating purposes, but for the alcohol. He sent scientists into the interior of China to obtain a very rare peach, and brought it to this country, where it is being raised in large numbers. He imported macaroni wheat from Italy and there is a large revenue in America from that high-class product.

Mohair Due to Wilson.

The present proportions of the mohair industry are also said to be due to his efforts. He learned that this country spent $24,000,000 a year for mohair, and he brought it over. It is now being raised on a stupendous scale, and here in Oregon there is a big revenue each year from its production.

There are many other ideas and inventions which he has worked out in the interest of the people, and it is in that way and the interest he has taken in the position he represents that he has remained in the cabinet for 10 years.

IRRIGATIONISTS IN JOSEPHINE

All Is Activity in View of State Gathering at Grants Pass.

IRRIGATION CONGRESS MEN WILL BE THERE

Big Tent for the Meetings, and Exhibits Will Show Southern Oregon's Best—Opens September 10, for Three Days.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Grants Pass, Or., Aug. 3.—Extensive and elaborate plans are being made by Grants Pass municipal and commercial organizations and by individual citizens for the Oregon Irrigation association, which meets in this city September 10, 11 and 12. The association will be held just after the meeting of the National Irrigation congress at Sacramento, and it is expected that a very large number of the delegates to the national convention will attend the state meeting here. Many of the prominent men who will speak at Sacramento have already agreed to make addresses at Grants Pass. All things point to this being the biggest and most successful irrigation meeting ever held in Oregon. The Grants Pass council, commercial club and county court have all taken hold of the matter, and committees are hard at work. A big tent will be secured, in which to hold meetings. This will be purchased by the Grants Pass Fruitgrowers' association and will be used by them for holding fairs and conventions in future years.

This association is exerting itself to make a splendid display of fruit and orchard products. In conjunction with the local association, the fruitgrowers' associations of Medford and Ashland are also at work and will have splendid exhibits of fruit. All the towns of southern Oregon are to be represented and will take an active part in making the meetings a big success.

MEDFORD CARNIVAL.

Next Week to Set a New Pace for Southern Oregon.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Medford, Or., Aug. 3.—Over 20,000 people are expected in Medford during the week of August 5, the occasion being the Medford Fruit Carnival and Street fair.

The Trail is beautifully located and hundreds of booths and shows line its path. Besides local talent some fine professional features are on the program. A great week for the Rogue River valley town is assured.

The State Horticultural society convention will be held during carnival week. Speakers from all over the west will be in attendance.

A. Lincoln Hart, of Portland, is directing the carnival.

PRODUCTS OF KLAMATH.

Federal Project to Be Well Represented at Sacramento.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Klamath Falls, Or., Aug. 3.—Preparations are progressing very satisfactorily for the Klamath project to make an excellent showing of farm products at the Irrigation congress at Sacramento, Frank Ira White, Alex. Martin Jr., and George T. Baldwin constitute the chamber of commerce committee who have in charge the raising of funds for the exhibit. The county has promised $500 provided the chamber raises an equal amount. Plans are also being made to take the Klamath Falls Military band. Products have already been selected and a hearty interest is being shown.

A HUNDRED AND SEVENTEEN TAKE AN AWFUL TUMBLE

A SAN FRANCISCO SACRIFICE, INVOLVING 7 CARLOADS

Portland Again to the Rescue—An Opportunity for Securing the Choicest of Brand New Pianos at Most Astounding Reductions. All to Go for 57 Cents on the Dollar—Investigate This, if Yours Is a Pianoless Home.

"Unless you can help us dispose of seven or more carloads of pianos we shall have to cancel factory orders, and even then we don't know how to secure sufficient insurance on what is now en route." This was the word from our San Francisco house.

The turbulent and riotous condition during May and early in June mfwym during May and early June simply stopped all business. The big Van Ness avenue fire resulted in the cancelling of a great deal of insurance on stock contained in our temporary buildings. It was out of the question for our San Francisco folks to think of taking these surplus pianos. Not to take them would mean the loss of very important quantity factory discounts on an entire year's supply. There remained but one alternative. We had to divert all of these cars to Portland.

So Now They're Here.

Seven carloads, therefore, have arrived here. There are 117 pianos, choice and new and beautiful. We've got to sell them and we must accomplish the sale of them within the next ten days. We must get this stock out of the way.

The idea of profit making has been abandoned—to gain our point we can afford to sell the entire lot at even less than factory cost—hence the offer, 57 cents on the dollar.

The Very Best of Everything.

The Eilers Houses are universally recognized as the Houses of Highest Quality. Nowhere can instruments of such uniformly highest grade be found as right in our town at 353 Washington street. Names that are household words—Pianos that had won world's renown before the days of railroad and telegraph—the glorious Chickering, oldest of all in America—Kimball, of Chicago, indorsed and used by more great artists and musicians than any other American make; the favorite hand-made art Hazelton—superb Deckers, the genuine and now the only Decker, and then also that superb master-product of American piano-making genius, the Weber, the choice of Rosenthal, and also now of Paderewski, and of all Metropolitan grand opera artists.

Fills Recital Hall.

Recital Hall has been filled with these San Francisco Pianos. All of them are marked with red tags—plainly and determinedly. And you can figure the cost to you yourself: $200 pianos, new ones, go for $114; $300 means now $171; $400 is $228, etc., etc.

Protection That Protects.

Bear in mind that we guarantee the price and value, as we also guarantee unconditionally for five years the durability and quality of these pianos.

The sale is to be for all cash. But if more convenient to pay, say, half cash and balance in 12 months at 8 per cent simple interest added, this can be arranged. Our main purpose is to sell these pianos quickly and with the least possible interference with our regular work.

Subject to Your Trial.

Pianos will be shipped subject to examination and trial upon receipt of 10 per cent of sale price. Money to be refunded by us if instrument, after delivery, does not prove in every way satisfactory. Telegraph, telephone, write or call, but bear in mind you'll have to hurry. Hundreds of Oregon's prosperous homes will eagerly avail themselves of this unprecedented opportunity. First-comers will find the choicest selections. Eilers Piano House, 353 Washington street, Portland, Oregon.

HAND MANGLED BY FIRECRACKER

Otto Clancy Victim of Accidental Explosion at the Oaks Last Night.

Otto Clancy, a young man aged 18, became inquisitive at the Oaks last night and picked up a 14-inch cannon firecracker, thinking that perhaps it was loaded. He held it long enough in his right hand to discover that his hunch was only too true, for bang! and it ripped the atmosphere with a great noise. Clancy's hand was terribly torn.

Investigation led to the discovery that the cracker had been used in the fireworks for the evening, but somehow had failed to explode. Clancy thought he would try to make it go and then it worked, much to his surprise. Clancy blames no one but his own inquisitiveness.

QUITS JOURNAL AFTER FIVE YEARS' SERVICE

W. J. Hofmann has resigned his position as business manager of The Journal to accept the position of advertising manager of the Oregonian, succeeding E. G. Jones. He will enter upon his new duties tomorrow.

Mr. Hofmann has been with The Journal for nearly five years, coming from the Wilmington, (Delaware) Journal, in October, 1902. His relations with the paper began when it was in its infancy. In his position as business manager Mr. Hofmann has gained many friends and has made a large circle of acquaintances. He is a member of the Commercial club and has been one of the active spirits of the Admen's league. Mr. Hofmann was the recipient yesterday afternoon of a testimonial presented to him by his past associates on The Journal.

Weston Normal Improvements.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Weston, Or., Aug. 3.—Repairs are now being made on the different buildings at the Weston normal for the next school term. Among the many needed improvements will be the addition of 20 rooms to the girls' dormitory. Two thousand half-gallon jars of fruit have been put up at the dormitory, strawberries, blackberries and cherries being the principal fruits.

ROADS YIELD IN TWO CENT WAR

Virginia Law Goes Into Effect Not Later Than October, Pending Appeal.

(United Press by Special Leased Wire.)

Richmond, Va., Aug. 3.—The surrender of the railroads in the 2-cent railway fare fight was actually consummated at midnight tonight. A letter from the governor was read at a joint session of the state and railway representatives, in which it was suggested that the 2-cent rate as promulgated by the commission, go into effect not later than October 1, to remain in full force and effect pending the settlement of the litigation now on between the railways and state relative to the constitutionality of the law effected by the commission.

This arrangement was conceded by the railways who will now go into the United States circuit court and ask that the injunction recently granted by Judge Pritchard be so amended.

The ratification was signed by Alfred Thom for the Southern Railway; Henry T. Wickham for the Chesapeake & Ohio; Alexander Hamilton for the Atlantic Coast line and Julian Cochran for the Norfolk & Western. The state was represented by the governor and attorney-general and associate counsel and the members of the corporation commission.

DESERTING HUSBAND IS CONFRONTED BY WIFE

Alleged to have deserted his wife and two children in Vancouver, B. C., Tom Swenson, a plasterer, residing at 92½ Grand avenue, was treated to a most unpleasant surprise yesterday afternoon, when taken to police headquarters by Detectives Jones and Tichenor on a warrant charging him with a statutory offense, by meeting the woman he is said to have mistreated.

The complaint upon which Swenson was taken into custody was sworn to by Mrs. J. A. Swenson, his wife, who tracked him to this city. She claims that he left her and two children about two months ago and, upon ascertaining that he was in this city with another woman, she immediately boarded a train for Portland. Upon arriving here yesterday morning she ascertained the whereabouts of her faithless spouse and his consort and secured warrants for their arrest.

Swenson was taken into custody at Sixteenth and Everett streets. As he was being booked at the desk Mrs. Swenson walked up softly behind him and, touching him gently on the shoulder, said:

"How are you, Tom?"

In the language of one of the station officers, "You could have floored him with a feather."

The guilty husband and his wife then repaired to a bench to discuss the matter and in the meantime Mrs. Florence Weston, the woman in the case, was brought in by the detectives. Mrs. Swenson made no attempt to assault her rival, as was feared, and the case will be heard by Judge Cameron tomorrow morning.

To Forestall Fuel Famine.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Heppner, Or., Aug. 3.—Heppner is providing against a coal famine this winter and 700 tons of coal have already been secured from the mines in Wyoming, which will be shipped as soon as cars can be secured. This, with a few hundred cords of wood will place Heppner on the safe side.