

Be sure to call early tomorrow with your ads for Sunday's Journal.

The Weather—Rain tonight and Saturday; southwesterly winds.

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JOURNAL CIRCULATION

YESTERDAY WAS

31,202

ATTEMPT TO KILL PRESIDENT OF FRANCE

TRY TO PICTURE FISHER AS WOULD-BE ASSASSIN

Attorneys for Defense in Finch Case Again Shift Position—Now Planning to Prove Plot to Kill Their Client Existed.

"Do you wish, then, to be understood as swearing that after Ralph B. Fisher had twice called you up to invite you to his office, after you had apparently enlisted his sympathy by telling of your reduced circumstances, and you had been led to believe that he would sign your petition, that you went to his office and opened the door, spoke to him in the most kindly manner, and that a few moments later without any apparent reason he hurled his notarial seal at you and brought you to your knees?"

"Yes." "How long were you in Fisher's office before he threw the seal?" "It was only a short interval. I would not attempt to say how long it was, but it was just after I started to plead with him to sign my petition. It was just a short interval."

"And he threw it backward at you?" "Yes, that is, it was over and back. I think his chair turned a little, and then he threw it, half over his shoulder."

Develops New Theory. These questions, asked by Arthur C. Spencer during the cross-examination of James A. Finch yesterday, with the answers of the defendant, show that the attorney for the man accused of Ralph B. Fisher's murder has developed a theory of the case that is startling.

Finch is to be pictured as the meek, unsuspecting victim of a trap, as he once referred to himself yesterday. Ralph B. Fisher is to be represented as the malevolent, cunning, treacherous schemer, who enticed Finch to his office by words of kindness and the inspiration of false hopes.

The defendant's lawyers have not yet openly charged that Fisher called Finch to his office to kill him, but their defense, which has shifted several times, is plainly tending in that direction. Yesterday afternoon the defense became suddenly anxious for admission in evidence of one of the unsigned threatenings which were received by Fisher just before his death.

The defendant's attorney denounced it as an outrage and said the threatening missive was not a letter, but a "thing. It would be 'cruelly unjust to let such a thing as that go before an American jury where a man is on trial for his life," he said. Yesterday this same lawyer jumped at a chance to get the letter in evidence, and said the defense would offer it if the state did not.

Reason Can Be Guessed. The reason the defense wants this letter, which was shown to Finch and which he said he had never seen before, may be guessed without wide stretch of the imagination. It will be argued that Fisher became alarmed by threatening letters of this character, that he

SHOT FOLLOWS SHORT ANSWER
Non-Union Fatally Wounds Union Printer Who Rebukes Him.

Chicago, Dec. 25.—"Merry Christmas," said Dell Doherty, a nonunion printer, to W. F. Getts, a union printer, whom he saw sitting in the lobby of the States hotel today.

GOLFAX PASTOR "COMES TO LIFE"
J. R. Bradshaw Drops From Sight and Then Drops Back Again.

Ships in the Caribbean.
Washington, Dec. 25.—The navy department announced today the receipt of news that the Dolphin had left Curacao for La Guayra. The Des Moines has arrived at Curacao. Both ships have been hurried to Venezuela to represent the United States in case American interests may demand protection in the event of hostilities.

SANTA CLAUS REMEMBERS PORTLAND

Good Things for Rich and Poor Crammed Stocking of Rose City—Church Militant Does Noble Work for Needy.

Did you hear the jingle of the sleigh bells last night and the patter of reindeer hoofs? Perhaps you didn't, for a Portland Christmas isn't exactly suitable for sleighs. But that made no difference. There are other methods of travel in this country, and Santa Claus got here somehow. And if the chimney was too small for him to come down that way, he managed to get into the house some other fashion.

There is no doubt but that the jolly old gentleman was here some time during the night, for Portland's Christmas stocking was well filled. In fact, indications are that the saint came direct from his mysterious abode up in the frozen northland to Portland without making any stops on the way, and that, consequently, Portland got the pick of all the good things he had in his pack.

ALL DEAD ON CHRISTMAS MORNING
While Preparing Overnight for the Day's Festivities Wealthy Chicagoan Opens Gas Jet—Man, Wife and Little Girls Asphyxiated.

Chicago, Dec. 25.—While filling the stockings which his daughters had hung on a gas jet in their home late last night, Morris Lukeman or his wife accidentally turned on the gas and when Christmas dawned all four members of the family were dead.

MILLIONS PULLED TO CURE DOCKJAW
Ships in the Caribbean.

INITIAL TRIP OF NEW BOAT
Steamer Inland Empire Carries 120 Tons of Freight for Pasco and Kennewick—Captain Edwin Baughman Sounds the First Edging Bell.

AGGRIEVED POLITICIAN GRAPPLES AND FIRES

President Attacked As He Dines—Assailant Seizes By Beard, and Shoots—Bullet Passes Through Ear—Wound Not Serious.

Paris, Dec. 25.—President Fallieres escaped death at the hands of a youthful assassin today, by a hair's breadth. The young man fired at the president and the bullet passed through the president's ear, inflicting a painful but not serious wound.

ISWOLSKY FOR THE STATUS QUO
Expresses Russian Friendliness for Turkey, Before the Douma.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 25.—Foreign Minister Iswolsky, in a statement to the Douma today, denied that he endorsed the Austrian course of procedure in the late Balkans crisis. He recounted the numerous attempts that were made to complete an Austro-Russian alliance, all of which failed.

in the Palais d'Etrole, when Mappis suddenly approached and before any one could interfere seized Fallieres by his flowing beard. The restaurant was crowded with the holiday crowd and the greatest excitement prevailed. Women screamed and fainted.

MISSION BELL TOLLS AFTER 50 YEARS
Oakland, Dec. 25.—The pealing of an old mission bell whose tongue has been silent for 50 years was the unique ceremony that opened Christmas at St. John's Catholic mission at San Leandro today.

Text of the Bill.
Section 1. Ninety days after the passage and approval of this act, the board of bank commissioners shall levy against the capital stock of each and every bank organized and existing under the laws of this state, an assessment of 1 per cent of the bank's average deposits, which shall consist of individual deposits subject to check, time certificates, cashier's checks outstanding, and in fact all moneys deposited in each bank, less the deposits of the

AUTONOMY IN PANAMA ZONE

House Committee to Visit Uncle Sam's Isthmian Possessions and Thence to Frame Self-Rule Act—Zone on Military Basis.

Washington, Dec. 25.—That the real object of the visit of the house interstate commerce committee to the Panama canal zone during the holiday recess is to get data for the formation of a government for the zone is the statement of one of the government officials. It is declared that the zone, which is now a sort of duchy under President Roosevelt, will be given a government of its own.

The members of the house committee will make an especial study of the somewhat complicated problem of the relations existing between the American administration of the zone and the republic of Panama.

There is considerable opposition to any plan that will make it necessary for congress to legislate for any more federal districts. The District of Columbia is regarded as occupying more of the time of the national lawmakers than a city with 350,000 inhabitants justifies, and it is desired that Panama, with its population of 100,000, should not become another burden on congress.

MILLION IN HIS LITTLE SOCK
That's What the Wee Grandson of Colorado Millionaire Gets.

Colorado Springs, Dec. 25.—Just a bagatelle of \$1,000,000 is the Christmas present dropped today into the stocking of the month old son of Leopold A. Palmer of London by his grandfather, General W. J. Palmer, the Colorado railroad builder.

GUARANTEE OF DEPOSITS SOUGHT

State Grange Will Lead Fight for Orton Bill in Legislature This Winter—To Be Independent of Other Legislation.

State guaranty of bank deposits will be one of the big questions to come before the next session of the legislature. Already a bill has been roughly drafted by A. W. Orton, representative from Multnomah county, and has been submitted to the banking committee of the Oregon state grange. The measure has been gone over carefully and a second draft of the measure has been prepared. This is now being sent to the different local granges throughout the state for their suggestion and approval.

The bill will be prepared in time for the opening of the legislature and will be backed by the state grange, which will make the enactment of the law one of the chief objects during the coming session.

MILLER AND LUX HOLDINGS SOLD
Enormous Values in Lands and Livestock Are Involved in the Deal.

San Francisco, Dec. 25.—Negotiations are under way today confirming the reported sale of the vast holdings of the famous firm of Miller & Lux in California, Nevada, Oregon and Idaho.

It is rumored that a deal of the magnitude of \$10,000,000 will be made between Henry Miller and the heirs of the late Charles W. Lux, whereby the firm of Liggett & Myers, a firm of St. Louis capitalists, will take over 30,000 acres of oil-bearing lands and thousands of acres of agricultural land in the San Joaquin valley, together with valuable water and power rights, all to be developed for colonization purposes, and the Ludaba at Omaha, the wealthy German-Americans of St. Louis and other eastern cities will take the 150,000 head of cattle, together with the slaughtering, cold storage and other plants, and the grazing lands in Oregon, Nevada and Idaho.

Voice of the Press—A State on Trial

From the Philadelphia North American (Rep.). In the distant state of Oregon a contest is in progress of far more than local significance. A systematic and persistent effort is being made to bring about a breach of faith with the people, which would shame and discredit the Republican party not only in Oregon, but throughout the country.

By legislation, approved by popular vote, that state adopted a plan which virtually provides for the direct election of United States senators. By that arrangement, candidates for the legislature give their pledges to vote for the senatorial candidate who receives the greatest number of popular votes at the polls.

The people of Oregon have been heart and soul in favor of progressive Republicanism and the policies of Roosevelt and Taft. But the Republican party in the state has been dominated by a corrupt, unscrupulous, reactionary machine. There have been few more offensive recent examples of misrepresentation than was offered in the course of Senator Fulton, training continually with the Aldrich-Cannon clique in congress.

He paid the price when he was beaten by the leader of another faction in the party primary. But the people of Oregon still were not satisfied. They looked beyond faction and beyond party to find a man they could wholly trust.

It is a Republican state. It voted overwhelmingly for Taft. It elected a Republican legislature. But it elected those legislators bound in solemn obligation to choose as senator a Democrat—George E. Chamberlain, the choice of the people for that office as he had been made their choice for governor by Republican votes in opposition to the ruling ring.

The duty of every Republican legislator so pledged is plain. As honest men like Bourne point out, the Republican is a traitor to his party who fails, in this instance, to vote for a Democrat.

Yet the strongest possible pressure is being brought to bear upon those legislators to perpetrate the treachery of supporting a leader of the machine—the criminally absurd reasoning being that because the people supported Taft and defeated the men who had fought all that Taft advocates and represents, one of those enemies should be returned to the senate instead of the man expressly chosen by the popular vote.

For a word of protest against the prostitution of Republicanism by a gang to go to any other state from Pennsylvania may seem too much like satan rebuking sin. But it is fair warning to the men of Oregon that they would do even greater dishonor to the party by defeating Chamberlain than would be wrought by the reelection of a Penrose.