

HARPS BOY IS AGAIN IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Chairs Are Said to Dance at Valley Hotel and the Pie About to Be Served Is Said to Have Risen in Air as If by Unseen Hands.

Mrs. Annie Harps, housekeeper at the Valley hotel, was preparing to serve a turkey pie at the hostelry yesterday at noon, when the pastry rose from the table several feet into the air, so eye-witnesses say, hung suspended a moment and fell to the floor.

Seated around the table were Helen Sanders, a sister of the housekeeper; J. L. Dornbach, proprietor of the hotel; A. Dornbach, a brother of the housekeeper; Mrs. Josephine Gillingham, a domestic, of 547 Fourth street, and the 11-year-old Ernest Harps, son of the housekeeper, who two months ago was hailed as the boy wonder of Marshall street.

Those who witnessed the performance of the pastry attribute it to powerful psychical influence and control which the youth is alleged to possess. Remembering the supposed psychical manifestations of the boy more than two months ago, when furniture and bric-a-brac in the home of his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Sanders, Sixteenth and Marshall streets, was strangely moved, they have no other explanation to offer.

Things Dance in Hotel. For eight hours yesterday, Ernest Harps, to repeat the testimony of credible witnesses, offered potent evidence of the possession of powerful occult power. From 9 o'clock in the morning until after 4 o'clock in the afternoon, the child is averred to have caused the movement of furniture, tableware and kitchen utensils at the Valley hotel, Second and Main streets.

When I went to work at the hotel just before 9 o'clock this morning Ernest was causing chairs and pictures on the wall to dance and quiver violently," asserted Mrs. Gillingham, who is employed as a domestic with Helen Sanders at the Valley hotel. Mrs. Gillingham made a full and unqualified statement last night.

"Helen and I were cleaning the rooms and making the beds, Ernest began following me about. When he was in the different rooms with us the furniture moved queerly. Pictures on the wall rattled and shook. Several chairs turned over.

"I was alarmed. When his first began manifesting his power, we were working in a room on the second floor. I asked him to leave the room. He did, and the furniture and pictures moved perfectly still.

"Helen and I investigated. Working in different rooms, we would call for Ernest to enter. Simultaneous with the opening of the door, chairs and tables and pictures seemed to be given life.

"We watched several chairs fall. They seemed not to fall directly, but were pulled by some superhuman force. I would say, they 'scotted' along the floor before they toppled. Pictures swung out from the walls, as if drawn out.

"Ernest seemed the magnetic center. Every movable object in the room was apparently attracted by him. Loose paper, books and small objects flew in his direction. Chairs slipped and fell forward where he was standing.

"I've been fixing my mouth for that pie all during lunch," declared Mr. Dornbach, who owns the hotel.

Pie Ranges in Air. "Just as Mrs. Harps started to cut the pie, it flew from off the table, out of her hands, and into the air. Several feet above our heads it hung for the fraction of a second. Then it fell, upside down, to the table. We ate no lemon pie."

"During luncheon, we had noticed a strange lull in the manifestations which had been going on all morning. But with the upheaval of the pie, they commenced again. Pans and kettles, swung to hooks on the wall clattered to the floor. Dishes flew from the shelves. A large pan of dough, which was sitting on the stove, slipped off to the floor. Silverware on the table jumped strangely and rattled.

"When, finally, Mrs. Harps began removing the table ware from the table, the cloth seemed dragged off by a mystic hand and glass ware, china ware and silver were crashed to the floor.

"Until after 4 o'clock in the afternoon, the strange performances continued. Ernest followed us about while we were at work, and wherever we went, inanimate things seemed imbued with life. So strangely they acted, too. At times it was almost laughable to watch the chairs dance real rigs.

Boy Was Choking Fits. "Ernest was ill all day. Several times we were compelled to stop work and attend the boy when he had choking fits. His throat seemed to close com-

THIEF TUGS AT GOLD TOOTH WHILE VICTIM DOZES, MOUTH AGAPE

A thief attempted last evening to steal the gold from the teeth of James Watt, a civil engineer for the O. R. & N. railway.

Watt was asleep in a chair in a card room at the Fritt's apartment, Third and Burnside streets. His head was resting against the wall, and his mouth was open.

The thief seized the front tooth with a pair of pincers. Watt awoke, but his teeth were pulled up by his teeth, and the would-be thief was standing over him with the pincers in his hand.

The tooth is partly gold and is connected with a piece of gold. The thief's teeth and bridge were loosened. The thief ran when he found he had awakened Watt, and the near-victim reported the matter to the police. Watt lives at 93 1/2 North Third street.

Incident at Baker. Baker City, Or., Dec. 4.—A light snow began falling at 5:30 this evening and has steadily continued, indicating that Baker is about to experience the heaviest snow fall in three years. A light sleet fell recently, but it did not turn cold until yesterday, when the thermometer dropped to 12 above. Today broke clear, but soon clouded, and it looks as though a heavy snow is coming. It is falling now at an inch an hour, and probably will continue all night. No damage is reported, as stockmen have brought their cattle in and sheepmen have their sheep near shelter. No wind is blowing, and the snow will be welcomed by all. The snowfall has been light the last two years, and it is hoped it will be heavier this winter.

Two Inches at Spokane. Spokane, Wash., Dec. 4.—It is growing steadily colder here tonight. Two inches of snow covers the ground. The maximum temperature today was 23, the minimum 12. At 8 o'clock tonight the mercury had fallen to 20 above. Little alarm is felt here because of the cold weather, as there is insufficient snow on the hills to cause a bad flood with rising temperature. No reports of losses or damage to apples or other crops have been received yet. Farmers have placed most of their potatoes either in pits or basements, and the entire apple crop is still in the hands of the farmers and is protected.

Slight Snow at Roseburg. Roseburg, Or., Dec. 4.—Snow barely covering the ground fell last night and today. It commenced raining this evening and the temperature is warmer. The minimum last night was 26. No damage is reported. Snow or rain is predicted for tonight and tomorrow, but it is expected to rain.

Cold and Snow at Woodland. Woodland, Wash., Dec. 4.—Snow commenced falling about noon today, driven by a fierce east wind, and as the ground

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Christmas Weather at Medford.

Medford, Or., Dec. 4.—Three inches of snow covers the city and valley this evening as the result of the storm which started shortly before noon today. For the first time since 1881 snow has fallen in the Rogue River valley before Christmas. No damage has been done. The fruit crop has been gathered and but little stock is ranged in this country. The thermometer went down to 28, thus giving Medford citizens a taste of real winter and bringing to them a realization that Christmas is near.

Heavy Fall at Gervais. Gervais, Or., Dec. 4.—Snow began to fall at 7:30 o'clock this morning, and up to 2:40 p. m. it amounted to several inches and is still snowing. This is the first real steady snow that has prevailed this year. It has the aspect of permanency and may last several days. A heavy frost the past two days leaves the ground in good condition for the snow to remain.

Forest Grove Has Real Winter. Forest Grove, Or., Dec. 4.—Snow began falling here this morning, accompanied by a high east wind. The storm has raged all day, and assumed nearly the proportions of a blizzard. The past three days the mercury has been at freezing point, and the cold continues, it being but slightly warmer in spite of the snow.

Six Inches at Colfax. Colfax, Wash., Dec. 4.—This section of the northwest is in the grip of the first cold snap in nearly a year. The government thermometer here fell last night to four above zero, and tonight promises to be still colder. The entire Palouse country is covered beneath a six-inch mantle of snow, and no fears are entertained for the safety of fall-sown grain.

Snow Continues at Chehalis. Chehalis, Wash., Dec. 4.—The first snow of the season at Chehalis began falling this afternoon at 3 o'clock. It is still snowing tonight, but the fall is not heavy. No serious damage is anticipated unless it gets much colder. The thermometer tonight was 30 above, with 27 this morning.

Zero Weather at Pendleton. Pendleton, Or., Dec. 4.—The weather is cold at Pendleton and vicinity, the thermometer having reached zero last night. No damage whatever from the cold is anticipated from the light fall of snow here. The snow was heavier north of this city. Wheat is seemingly well protected.

Blizzard at Grand Ronde. Grand Ronde, Or., Dec. 4.—Following in the wake of a cold snap which registered 8 above zero, the wind is blowing over the Grand Ronde valley tonight, whipping the light snow fall about like a North Dakota blizzard.

Six Inches at Hood River. Hood River, Dec. 4.—Fine snow has been falling since early morning. At 5

BROADEN POWER OF COMMISSION

J. N. Teal Makes Important Suggestion Relative to Proposed Amendment.

By John E. Lathrop. Washington, D. C., Dec. 4.—J. N. Teal, of Portland, interviewed Attorney General Wickersham today, accompanied by Senator Chamberlain, in reference to the proposed amendment of the interstate commerce act. The desire of shippers to control the routing of freight, to which carriers have objected, was discussed. Mr. Teal made the important suggestion that the authority of the federal commission be broadened to empower it to declare any number of through routes, even when carriers have already made reasonable through routes. This, it is believed, would give shippers what they want, and at the same time would meet the objections of the carriers. Mr. Teal said he was impressed with Attorney General Wickersham's fairness and with his information on traffic subjects. During the conference the whole question of the amendment of traffic laws was gone over.

Better Day for Waterways. In connection with river and harbor work to which Teal has been giving attention, he said: "I believe the Columbia, Snake and Willamette projects will be provided for this winter by sufficient appropriations, with continuing contracts, which will assure speedy completion. It is believed there will be hereafter an annual river and harbor bill to care for meritorious projects in a business-like manner, instead of the old methods, which caused waste and delay."

Complaint to Chamberlain. Senator Chamberlain has been given prominence on the program on the first day of the river and harbor convention, the same day Taft speaks. The assignment was an act of special compliment to the Oregon senator.

SAYS POTATO BROKER PAWNED HER WATCH. George Grace, a potato broker, has been arrested on a charge of larceny by bailiff, Mrs. Belle Bogarth, living on Mississippi avenue, makes the charge, and accuses Grace with taking her watch, depositing it in a pawnshop and refusing to return it to her.

Grace appeared yesterday in municipal court and asked the case to go over until Tuesday. He was recently convicted in municipal court of giving short weight potatoes.

First Snow at Olympia. Olympia, Wash., Dec. 4.—Olympia is enjoying its first snowstorm of the season tonight. The snowfall started in at 3 o'clock and more than two inches had fallen by 7 o'clock.

WHITMAN SEEKS SITE OF FORT

President Penrose at Washington, Anticipating Abandonment.

(Washington Bureau of the Journal.) Washington, Dec. 4.—That Fort Walla Walla is to be abandoned, and that Whitman college will get the land whereon the fort is located, are said to be virtual certainties. The secretary of war is committed to the policy of abolishing posts at small towns and retaining those at important centers of transportation. It is believed the Walla Walla post will inevitably come under the application of the secretary's policy, so that it will be regarded as unavoidable that it will be abandoned.

The Whitman authorities, knowing such action is inevitable, it is said have been endeavoring to get possession of the barracks site.

S. B. L. Penrose, president of Whitman, is here, with Prof. Hendrick, working on the plan. However, Adjutant General Afmsworth says he knows nothing of such a plan, saying orders have been issued for the First cavalry to go there from the Philippines in the near future.

HORTICULTURISTS MEET AT EUGENE

(Eugene, Or., Dec. 4.—The annual meeting of the Lane County Horticultural society was held in Eugene this afternoon. Officers were elected as follows: H. C. Bushnell, Junction City, president; F. B. Harlow, Eugene, vice president; Frank Needham, Eugene, secretary.

County Fruit Inspector J. Boebe, in his annual report, gave figures on a number of acres of fruit, and number of trees set out during the past year, as follows: In 1908, 1609 acres, 74,035 trees; 1909, 694 acres, 40,535 trees. More acres were set out in cherries than any other fruit. Apples were next, peaches third and pears, walnuts, prunes and plums in the order named.

DEN NORSE AMERIKALINIE.

New Steamship Line Between Norway and United States. The Norske Amerikalinie has appointed Lange & Bullock, Inc., of Portland as Pacific Coast Agents to receive subscriptions for stock in the above named steamship line. This is an enterprise that all loyal Norwegians should be interested in, no matter how small.

The allotment of stock to be sold on the Pacific Coast is limited and the subscription lists will be closed shortly. To give all a chance to have some of this stock, the shares have been divided into the exceedingly small amount of 100 Kr (\$27.00) per share. Subscriptions of any size will be accepted. For full information and data, call on Lange & Bullock, Inc., 601 Beck Bldg., Portland, Or.

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SLOPE STATES DON WINTER RAINMENT

(Continued from Page One.) cut off from railroad communication by the floods. It took 25 tons of groceries and other provisions sent to meet the shortage and supply orders coming to the wholesale grocery company. Heavy Fall in Linn County. (Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Albany, Or., Dec. 4.—Snow fell all day at Albany, commencing at 7 this morning, and tonight it had reached a depth of six inches. It is still snowing, with the wind to the northeast. The weather remains cold. No damage is looked for in Linn county, unless snow falls for several days more and remains on the ground for some time. Reports come from different parts of the county stating that five or six inches of snow had fallen. As a rule farmers and stockmen are well prepared for the winter, and have a sufficient amount of feed for their stock. Should the cold weather continue with snow covering the ground it would prove to be hard on the large herds of sheep and goats, as in very few cases have shailers been provided for them. Farmers are jubilant over the fall of snow, as it means protection against the frost and also molasses for the sown grain. The thermometer registered 28 degrees tonight. Cold and Snow at Woodland. (Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Astoria, Or., Dec. 4.—All of the coast country near the mouth of the Columbia lies under a blanket of white tonight, and the air is still filled with falling and swirling snow. Back in the mountains the fall has been quite heavy, with already over an inch on the ground. In the city snow has been falling fully all day, with about half an inch on the ground. It is the coldest day of the year, with the thermometer about 10 degrees below freezing point. The wind is easterly, and blew strong since early morning, adding to the discomfort of the unusual cold. Much of the day the storm was like a blizzard, and it is known that the same conditions prevail out at sea, and ships always have a hard time in snow. No change in the weather is promised for tonight. Storm signals have been out all day. Snow is falling heavily at 8 o'clock tonight. Worst Storm in Years. (Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Walla Walla, Dec. 4.—With the thermometer only 10 degrees above zero and snow falling heavily, Walla Walla is in the grip of the worst early winter storm in years. Six inches of snow was on the ground early this evening and there was every prospect for a heavier fall. Last night the thermometer went down to eight degrees, and will probably go lower tonight. Little or no damage has been done here by the storm. Farmers are rejoicing because the ground has been covered and danger of fall grain freezing is eliminated. In the mountains is the heaviest early winter snow that old timers can remember, and the only danger from the storm is in this snow melting by a sudden warm spell, chilnook and rain, causing floods in the valley. Tonight sleighs are in the streets for the first time this season. Snow Turns to Rain at Eugene. (Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Eugene, Or., Dec. 4.—Snow fell to a depth of three inches this forenoon, but ceased at noon and during the greater part of the afternoon a light rain fell, melting a great deal of the snow. In places however it is quite deep. Where the heavy wind this forenoon, snow

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