

PAIR CHARGED WITH CRACKING OF SAFES ARRESTED AT DEPOT

Confession of One Indicates That Visit Here Has Cost Merchants Over \$3000.

WOMAN'S ACTIONS CLUE

Female Companion Attracts Attention of Police Detectives by Sudden Burst of Propriety.

Two men, one of whom has confessed, were arrested last night at the Union depot for robbing Portland safes, as they were preparing to take the 1230 train for Denver. Two women were taken into custody, and are being held for investigation. In the pocket of one was found \$518, said to have been taken from the safe of L. Shanahan, 146 Third street, Sunday night. The men give the names of Fred Blandowsky, known also as Lothar von Falkenberg, 23 East 12th, and Leopold Werter, known as Richard Erbert, 28. The women are Mrs. Maude O'Connell, 35, and Grace Pirtle, 34. A trunk belonging to the latter woman has been intercepted between Portland and Denver. She says it contains burglar tools belonging to the men, who are German and pose as tourists.

The arrest was made by Patrolman A. H. Ulffers, and Detectives Price, Mallett, Coleman and Snow. The four prisoners are held in the city jail. The two men this morning were charged with safe robbery.

Blandowsky confessed last night to the detectives having taken part in the following safe robberies:

Safe Robberies Admitted.
Store of L. Shanahan, Sunday evening, getting about \$1600, blowing open the safe, safe in the city jail. A hardware store, February 26, no cash was found; safe in the clothing store of Bowman Bros., Third and Burnside street, February 5, getting about \$1200; Hamburger Department store at Second and Alder streets, in February, wherein they got about \$500.

Werter refuses to talk and makes a strong effort to appear innocent. He maintains he is a teacher in riding academies. The Pirtle woman says she is from Denver. Mrs. O'Connell says she is the wife of a local bartender, but refuses to give definite information. She contends she went to the depot to bid the two men and Pirtle woman good-bye, her intention being to then go home.

New Clothes Give Clue.

A sudden burst of prosperity on the part of the Pirtle woman was the clue that led to the arrest today. She purchased new clothes and exhibited considerable money. This information was given Patrolman Ulffers, together with the information that the woman and two men acted in a peculiar manner. The patrolman reported to Detective Captain Baty, who assigned Detectives Price and Mallett. The Pirtle woman was watched yesterday afternoon and evening. She was seen to meet Blandowsky for whom the detectives were watching.

Last night at 10:30 o'clock, the detectives saw the quartet go to the Union depot, where they were taken to the ticket window while the women took seats in the waiting room. Detectives Coleman and Snow took charge of the women, while Detectives Price and Mallett asked the two men to step outside, where they were searched, two of them being taken from their pockets. All were taken to jail, where Blandowsky confessed, implicating his partner, but said the women had nothing to do with the burglaries. Both men posed as tourists, when first arrested, making strong protestations of their detention.

Blandowsky is the partner of Fred Wagner and Carl Weinigel, who were arrested six weeks ago by Detectives Joe Day, John Goltz and Frank Snow, for robbing the Kaskaderie store. Blandowsky escaped at that time, and has been sought since. Wagner and Weinigel are now in the county jail, under indictment. An indictment was also found against Blandowsky at that time. All are Germans.

Blandowsky says he has been in America three years. For the past year, and has made Portland his headquarters since December, since which time he has been robbing safes. He says he formerly followed the sea, but turned burglar when he was unable to get work last winter. His intention of going to Denver, he says, was to get work as a miner.

Wagner says he is an ex-cavalryman in the German army and to have been employed as riding master in several academies in the United States.

In a suit case carried by Blandowsky were two small bottles, which the department says was nitroglycerine. These bottles were taken to the river and emptied.

Vancouver Troops May Go to Colorado

Governor Ammons Asks for More Regulars; Vancouver Barracks Would Send the Next Contingent.

Washington, May 1.—A request for more troops to guard the northern Colorado coal fields was received today by Secretary of War Garrison from Governor Ammons. If the request is granted the troops will be sent from Vancouver Barracks, Wash.

ONLY ONE "BROMO QUININE"
To get the genuine, call for full name, LAXA-THE BROMO QUININE, for signature of E. W. GROVE. Cures a Cold in a Day. See

Bread Baking—Beer Brewing

You use wheat—we use finest barley.
You use yeast—so do we.
You bake bread—we boil beer.

Feel Brew
is the most nourishing, pure and wholesome of all beverages. Phone your order.
Portland Brewing Co.

EPIDEMIC OF SAFE BLOWING PROBABLY AT END



Richard Erbert.

Mrs. Biddle Files Suit for Divorce

Portland Society Woman Alleges Desertion; Husband Now Living at the Arlington Club; Custody of Children.

Mrs. Margaret Burrell-Biddle, well known in the local smart set, now living at Seaside, has filed suit for divorce in the courts of Clatsop county against her husband, Captain William S. Biddle, on grounds of desertion.

Captain Biddle, retired army officer and former military attaché at the American embassy in Berlin, makes his home at the Arlington club in this city. Papers were received by Sheriff Word yesterday that they were married December 22, 1897. She asks for the custody of their three children, Margaret, aged 15; William, aged 12; and Martin, aged 12, stipulating that the father be allowed to visit them at reasonable times. No property rights are mentioned.

Mrs. Biddle before her marriage was Miss Margaret Burrell. She is a sister of Walter F. Burrell and Mrs. Gordon Voorhies and has always moved in the fashionable circles of Portland. She took an active part in local horse shows, her mounts winning blue ribbons on many occasions. In addition to her Seaside home she maintains a residence at 777 Marshall street.

\$100,000,000 FOR U. S. ARMY IS PROVIDED IN APPROPRIATION BILL

(Continued From Page One)

In Mexico since Ambassador Henry Lane Wilson's recall, is to return to the United States shortly for a personal conference with President Wilson and Secretary of State Bryan.

The government was making every effort today to learn the truth concerning the case of Edward Ryan, an American reported to be in danger of execution as a spy at Zacatecas, Mexico.

It was admitted freely that Ryan had been acting as agent for the state department as well as a Red Cross representative, but it was said that not the slightest effort was ever made to conceal the fact, so that there certainly was no ground for treating him as a spy.

The Brazilian ambassador in Mexico City, who is in the United States while diplomatic relations between the two countries are broken, was urged to protect Ryan at all hazards and to emphasize to President Huerta the fact that, as an American citizen, the prisoner is entitled to a fair trial.

The summary execution, it was stated, would compel the United States to take the severest steps at once and would end all prospects of a preservation of the peace.

POLITICAL NOTES

Several Hundred Delegates Expected at Prohibition Convention.

Complete Program Announced.
With special rates granted by the railroad an attendance of 500 or 600 delegates is expected for the Prohibition state convention to be held Tuesday and Wednesday of next week at the Taylor Street Methodist Episcopal church, Third and Taylor streets.

The complete program of the convention as announced by officials in charge, follows:

Tuesday, May 5.
10:30 a. m. Opening of convention by J. P. Newell, state chairman; invocation; music; election of temporary chairman and secretary; address by temporary chairman; appointment of committees.

12:15 p. m. Luncheon at Portland hotel, H. W. Stone, general secretary of the Y. M. C. A., presiding. Speakers, H. B. Hastings of Reed College, "How to Win," A. C. Newell of Oregon Civic League, "With What Shall We Replace the Saloon When the State Goes Dry," Mrs. M. M. Sleeth, Oregon Women's Christian Temperance Union, "Compensation for the Liquor Maker and Dispenser When Put Out of Business," S. W. Grathwell, Pacific university, "How to Provide Revenue When the Income from the Liquor Traffic Ceases," E. E. Taylor, "A Wireless Message from the Firing Line."

2 p. m. Afternoon session. Music, report of the committees on credentials.

Conference Postponed.
R. W. Raymond, manager of the Manufacturers' association, has postponed a land show conference called for today at the Commercial club. Because of the absence of so many business men on the Ad Club excursion to Clifton, it was found advisable to hold the conference Monday noon instead.

Keep in step with life by buying a new spring suit of Jimmy Dunn, Oregonian tailor, 3d floor. (Adv.)

Youth Seals Lips; Remains in Jail

Chester McNeill Refuses to Tell Where He Bought Tobacco, in Spite of Court's Demands.

Chester McNeill, 19 years old, living with his parents at 545 Tenino street, continues to refuse to impart information relative to where he has been buying tobacco. Municipal Judge Stevenson this morning asked the boy if he was ready to tell, but the boy refused, and the judge ordered him to jail again.

The boy was arrested Wednesday evening by Patrolman Davis for smoking. Yesterday morning he refused to tell where he purchased tobacco, but explained the tobacco used when the arrest was made came from his father's jar. The judge gave him until 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon to think the matter over. At 2 o'clock McNeill still refused to divulge the information and he was taken to the boys' department in the city jail.

"Are you ready to tell the truth about this affair?" asked Judge Stevenson. "I told all yesterday," he replied. "When searched yesterday he had a package of tobacco in his pocket. The judge asked him this morning where he got it."

"At Oregon City last Sunday," said McNeill, but he was unable to tell from what dealer. "I don't intend to tell where I bought tobacco," he determinedly answered. "I'll stay in jail first."

"We can play this game as long as you want," said the judge. McNeill was taken back to the boys' quarters on the fifth floor.

Permanent organization and staff.
3 p. m. Addresses by Eugene W. Chaffin and Virgil G. Hinshaw, national chairman.

7 p. m. Evening session. Address by Eugene W. Chaffin.

Wednesday, May 6.
9:30 a. m. Opening sessions, report of committee on platform.

10:30 a. m. Nomination of state ticket and miscellaneous business.

1:30 p. m. Congressional caucuses.

7:30 p. m. Evening session. Address by the Rev. A. J. Bolster, Dr. R. W. MacCullough and state candidates.

Students' Union Planned.
Alumni and students of the law department of the University of Oregon will hold a smoker tonight at 8 o'clock in Selling-Hirsch hall. Among the speakers will be Dean C. U. Gantenbein, candidate for circuit judge, C. N. McArthur, candidate for congress, who is an alumnus of the university, and C. W. Holt, candidate for county commissioner, who is president of the alumni association.

Candidates Indorsed.
The Hebrew Good Government club has indorsed the following candidates for office:

Manning; circuit judge, J. U. Gantenbein; district judge, Judge Arthur C. Dayton; supreme justice, Samuel T. Richardson; representatives, Ben Selling and J. G. Richardson.

Further indorsements for the offices of constable, county commissioners, coroner, state senator and labor commissioner will be made at an early meeting.

Meredith Reaches Portland.
W. H. Meredith, candidate for congress from the first congressional district, reached Portland yesterday after being in attendance at the State Sunday school convention held early in the week at Albany. Mr. Meredith addressed the convention on "Law Enforcement," speaking for Governor West. He will attend the Oregon City Democratic banquet tonight, and after spending a couple of days in Portland will speak at Astoria Monday. Mr. Meredith will then work south toward his home in Curry county, campaigning as he goes. He has challenged his opponent for the nomination, Fred Hollister, to stump the state in joint debate. So far Mr. Hollister has not accepted.

Banquet to Candidates.
Clackamas county Democrats will be hosts at a big banquet at Oregon City tonight, at which Democrats from Portland and other parts of the state will be guests of honor. Among those invited are Governor West, Judge A. S. Bennett, Dr. C. J. Smith, Colonel Robert A. Miller, John Manning, Fred Hollister and W. H. Meredith, rivals for the congressional nomination in the first district. Postmaster F. S. Myers and others. The banquet is held every two years, this being the sixth biennial meeting. Gilbert Hedger, county attorney of Clackamas county, will preside.

Suicide at Condon.
Condon, Or., May 1.—E. H. Worsham committed suicide at the Summit hotel here this morning by shooting himself in the right temple with a .38 calibre Colt revolver. Worsham arrived in Condon last night from Portland, and was looking for work on a sheep ranch or on the roads or streets. He had \$30 in his pocket and \$35 in a Hermitian bank.

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ATTEMPT TO SETTLE PAVEMENT QUESTION FAILS OF SUCCESS

Representatives of Different Paving Companies Disagree on Subject of Rock.

OPPOSED TO AMENDMENTS

Attorneys in Letter Urge That Changes Proposed by Commissioner Dieck Be Not Adopted.

Attempts to settle the question whether smooth-surfaced or uncrushed gravel was better in a pavement of bituminous material than rough surfaced or crushed gravel were unsuccessful at this morning's meeting of the city council, when new paving specifications were discussed at length. Action is to be taken on the specifications next Thursday.

Paving company of the Oregon Independent gravel company contended that the use of uncrushed gravel mixed with bituminous material is not conducive to good pavements, as is the use of crushed gravel, while A. J. Hall, representing the Warren Construction company, contended that uncrushed gravel mixed with the company's bituminous material produces as good results as the use of crushed gravel.

Mr. Day, in his arguments to the council, stated that the original specifications calling for the use of crushed gravel above a certain size was satisfactory, but amendments later added out contractors from laying pavements to compete with the gravel bituminous pavements of the Warren Construction company.

"I wish to cast no reflection on Commissioner Dieck," said Mr. Day, "and I think he is not aware that those who advised him as to the amendments managed to get their points in with a great deal of adroitness. If the amendments are allowed to stand, there will be no real contest on a pavement known as gravel bitulithic."

In a letter to the council, Attorneys Fulton & Bowerman, representing several paving companies, asked the council not to adopt the amendments proposed by Commissioner Dieck, on the ground it would permit the use of uncrushed gravel, or at least 64 per cent of uncrushed gravel, to be used.

According to a report submitted to the council by City Attorney La Roche, the city council may give the name of a patented pavement to the city, although he says the question is not definitely settled. He advised the council, however, to avoid the use of all trade names in specifications, and the use of patented processes and machinery as far as possible in the specifications.

Mr. La Roche suggested that the patent holder for a pavement be required to grant to the city or another company the use of the patented process or machinery, and the user to pay a royalty if the city authorizes the use of patented process or machinery in the specifications.

It is regarded probable that final action will be taken next Thursday.

NEW REGULATIONS PLANNED

Referendum Invoked on Water Meters Compels Step.

As the result of the referendum being invoked to prevent the purchase of water meters, new plans have to be prepared for the regulation of the use of water by all consumers. They were discussed at a meeting of the city commissioners yesterday afternoon, called by William H. Daly, city commissioner of public utilities, although nothing definite was decided.

The greatest trouble, according to Commissioner Daly, was occasioned by the larger number of consumers on small mains sprinkling during the day and sometimes out of the regular hours. It was suggested that a division be made of the sprinkling hours in districts where water shortages exist, and have the police watch for all who sprinkle out of hours and who waste the water. Mayor Albee made the suggestion.

Commissioner Daly stated that it was impossible for the city to purchase 600 meters for large users who are now securing water on a flat rate basis. He is now making plans for the purchase of these meters.

SECRET PASSAGES MUST GO

Campaign Waged Against Owners in Chinatown Section.

All of the heavy doors, secret passages and underground rooms in Chinatown are to be removed or the owners are to be subject to arrest, according to a campaign now being obtained by City Attorney La Roche. The buildings are to be stumped by the city. La Roche, are a great fire menace.

City Attorney La Roche, Fire Chief

Dowell, Battalion Chiefs Stevens and Landenbergs and Fire Escape Inspector Campbell, guided by Patrolman Wise, visited a number of the buildings yesterday.

PARKING SYSTEM PLANNED

Improvement Being Outlined for Ainsworth Avenue.

Plans are now being made by the city engineering department, assisted by property owners, to establish a parking system on Ainsworth avenue from Union avenue to East Thirtieth street and make the thoroughfare into one of the most artistic in the city. The general scheme was investigated by the city commissioners yesterday.

LINER MINNESOTA IS SENT TO AID SIBERIA AND GET PASSENGERS

(Continued From Page One)

sped from Formosa to aid the Pacific Mail liner Siberia, in distress off South Cape.

The United States embassy asked for details of the disaster but was informed that nothing was known beyond the fact that distress signals were received throughout the night and that this morning they ceased. Strong assurances were given that everything possible would be done in the way of assistance.

The Siberia had 80 first cabin passengers.

Sea Was Calm.
A report was current that Captain Zeeder had wirelessed to Val-Te-Fue, Formosa, that he had beached his vessel off the mainland, and that he made no reference to danger to the passengers.

Exact reports for its officers, the Siberia was manned by Chinese. It was equipped with life-saving apparatus to care for everyone on board, and that this morning they showed no sign of having been saved.

Captain Zeeder is a South African Englishman and has sailed both the Atlantic and Pacific for many years without a serious accident.

Fear Ship Foundered.
Washington, May 1.—The Pacific Mail liner Siberia was reported in state department dispatches today to have sunk between the Chinese and Formosa coasts.

A message from Talsell, Formosa, said it wirelessed repeatedly for aid during the night, but this morning its signals had ceased.

The position given by the Siberia's wireless calls was just off Kashi Island, and a vessel was rushed to the scene from Kanton, but it was certain it could not reach there inside six hours.

The state department's message concluded: "We fear the Siberia foundered."

Wreck Postpones Trial.

San Francisco, May 1.—The reported disaster of the steamer Siberia caused a postponement of the trial of Maury L. Diggs, charged with assault by Ida Peering, Judge Cabanis suggested a continuance when he learned that the son of John A. Hallberg, one of the jurors, was a passenger on the Siberia.

Arthur S. Hallberg, the son, is an officer in the coast and geodetic survey. He was recently ordered to Manila and on route to his post at the time of the disaster.

Mrs. Harrison Not Aboard.
New York, May 1.—Mrs. Burton Harrison expressed considerable doubt here today concerning the report that her daughter-in-law was on board the Trans-Pacific liner Siberia, ashore south of Formosa.

My wife wrote me recently," she said, "that his wife was planning a trip to Hongkong to visit her brother, mother and sister, who have been traveling and the children. I do not see how she could be returning to Manila so soon."

Verdict Is Secured By Maker of Note

"I am glad that you jurors could see through the fraud perpetrated on the defendant in this case and have rebuked citizens who back such enterprises," said Circuit Judge Medina this morning when the jury returned a verdict in which L. Welch, a farmer, was awarded \$250 on a counterclaim against the Bank of Gresham. The case was an echo of troubles which arose from the formation of the Co-operative Supply House at Gresham.

The bank sought to collect a balance of \$750 on a \$1000 note signed by Welch and the latter pleaded that the note was given for the stock, that the stock was worthless and he received no value for the note, that he intended to sign a note for \$100 but because of poor eye-sight he discovered after signing the note that the sum was \$1000 and that fraud was practiced to procure his signature.

The bank contends that it was an innocent purchaser and paid face value for the note and that it had no part in the transaction by which the note was secured from Welch.

Store Open Until 10 P. M. Saturday

CROP CONDITIONS IN NORTHWEST ARE OF BRILLIANT PROMISE

North Bank Reports Indicate Cold Rains and Frosts Did but Little Harm.

EXPECT BIG PRUNE CROP

Heavy Business Expected by Nurserymen; Acreage of Garden Truck at Seaside Increased.

Crop conditions in the Willamette valley, eastern Washington and central Oregon are of most brilliant promise, according to information submitted to the traffic department of the North Bank road by traveling investigators. A summary, announced today, showing conditions up to April 15, indicates that cold rains and frosts, while having done some damage to fruit in isolated sections, for the most part have interfered little with the growth of vegetation.

From Oregon comes the information that nurserymen are preparing for an unusually heavy business and that large additions to the hopyard acreage are being put in. Around Corvallis, crops are good though prunes in low places were hurt by rain and frost. The Oregon county growers' association already has contracted for more fruit for canning than was put up all last year. Fruit near Salem was hurt by cold rains, but the prospects at Eugene are for a "bumper crop." The season at Beaverton is reported much earlier than last year, with a smaller acreage of potatoes because of the low price. Rain has delayed farm work near Harborsburg, but fruit is in good condition.

Hop vines around West Woodburn are beginning to turn, but because of the rains, general farm work is at a standstill. The canners at Woodburn have contracted for several carloads of fruit for eastern shipment.

At Vancouver, Wash., the warm days of March caused an early bloom of fruit trees which has suffered lately from the rain and frost. Some growers estimated only one-quarter of a crop. Heavy frosts at Clatskanie and White Salmon damaged strawberries considerably. At Kahlstus, however, crop conditions are reported ideal, with winter wheat 12 to 14 inches high and spring wheat six inches.

The largest prune crop in years is reported in prospect at Washington, at Seaside the acreage of garden truck has vastly increased with more gardeners putting in crops to serve the summer beach vacationers.

Conditions in central Oregon are unusually good, according to reports from Mecca, Deschutes, Metolius, Maupin and Redmond.

Black Latest Thing In Postage Stamps

Communication Received Today Says This Color Can Be Obtained Hereafter in Five Denominations.

A black seven-cent postage stamp is the latest creation of the postoffice. Myer's of the Portland postoffice today received a communication from the office of the postmaster general stating that five distinctly new denominations had just been issued and can now be had on requisition.

The stamps are for ordinary first-class mail, although the new denominations are designed to accommodate the unusual charges that are made on packages under the parcel post system.

They are valid for postage on all classes. The 7-cent stamp will be black, showing a profile of George Washington. The 12-cent stamps are pink, the 12-cent stamps maroon, the 20-cent stamps light blue and the 26-cent stamps vermilion. The last four have on them a profile of Franklin. The new issues are of the usual size.

Heart Trouble Is Cause of Death

Chester W. Coates, 345 Eugene street, was found dead in his home this morning, death being due to heart trouble. He was seen alive Wednesday evening. Mrs. W. A. Carter, 341 Eugene street, suspected something wrong this morning, as she had not seen Coates and looking through the window saw him lying diagonally across the bed.

Coroner Slocum was notified and a deputy sent to the home. Coates evidently was undressing for bed, when the attack came upon him. He was a machinist and lived here. His mother died last October. A brother, W. O.

Store Open Until 10 P. M. Saturday

AMUSEMENTS

Coates, lives at Sacramento, Cal., and a sister-in-law, Mrs. Anna Coates, lives at 352 Hancock street. The man was about 50 years old.

COFFEE

We specialize in Coffee. Get the benefit of our 25 years' experience

MANNING'S COFFEE STORE
JONES MARKET
FOURTH & ALDER

HOTEL STEWART

Geary Street, above Union Square
European Plan \$1.50 a day up
American Plan \$3.50 a day up
New steel and brick structure. Third addition of 100 rooms now building. Every modern convenience. Moderate rates. Center of theatre and retail district. On car lines meets trains and steamers.

CITY MAIL ORDERS NOW

Evenings—Lower floor, \$2, \$1.50. Balcony, \$1.50, \$1, 75c, 50c. Reserved Seats Now On Sale

BAKER THEATRE

Home of the Popular Baker Players. Mat. 2:30, 5:00, 7:30. Sat. 7:30, 9:30. Sun. 2:30, 5:00, 7:30. Box seats \$1. Mat. 75c. Sun. 50c. Box seats 75c. Next week, "The Eastward Way."

AMUSEMENTS

HEILIG 11th and Morrison
Tonight 8:15 "TOMMY" NIGHT
Special Price Mat. Tomorrow

MARGARET ILLINGTON

In the Dramatic Success
"Within the Law"
Evenings—Lower floor, \$2, \$1.50. Balcony, \$1.50, \$1, 75c, 50c. Sat. Matinee, \$1.50 to 50c.

BOX OFFICE SALE OPENS TODAY

7 NIGHTS BEGINNING Next Sunday
Special Price Matinee
WED.—FRI.—SAT.
Big N. Y. Winter Garden Co.

HONEYMOON EXPRESS

With
AL JOLSON
EXCELLENT CAST.
Stunning Chorus—20 Orchestras.
Evenings: Lower floor, \$2, \$1.50; balcony, \$1.50, \$1, 75c, 50c. Wed., Fri., Sat. mat. 7:30, 9:30. Lower floor, \$1.50, \$1; balcony, \$1, 75c, 50c.

ANTAGONES

Week April 27—Bernold's Dog and Monkey Actors, Tom Kelly, "The Jelly Jollies," The Beddarts, Jerome & Carson, Wood & Larson, Pantheoscope, Popular prices. Boxes and first row, "Antagonists" 7:30, 9:30. Main 45c. Curtain 2:30, 7:15, 9:10.

A STRAW VOTE