PETER W. SEVERSON, PIONEER CONTRACTOR AND BUILDER, DIES

Prominent Citizen and Philanthropist Victim of Influenza at Age of 89 Years.

Peter W. Severson, a pioneer contractor and builder who retired several years ago with a comfortable fortune that started from a small realty investment many years ago, died of influenza this morning at his home, 85 East Sixteenth street.

He was born on a farm near Conklin, N. Y., March 21, 1830, and came to Portland in 1860. For two years he carried on wagon making with the firm of Clark, Hay & Co. and for more than 40 years continued to be interested in wagon making in this city.

He later entered building and contracting and early became interested in what afterwards proved to be valuable properties in Portland. He purchased the northwest corner of Fifth and Morrison street in 1861 for $1700 in depreciated greenbacks. It was said he gave a shotgun for it, but the shotgun may have figured in some earlier transaction. He retained this lot until he sold it a few years ago for $250,000 and donated $200,000 of the mortgage on it to the Willamette university, the Y. M. C. A. and the Y. W. C. A., one-half to the University and one-quarter each to the other institutions.

Another of his valuable holdings was a block purchased in connection with a small debt for building work, which is bounded by Burnside, East Tenth, East Ankeny and East Ninth street. One of his recent gifts was $25,000 to the McMinnville college. His wife died 12 years ago. She was Miss Sarah Ann Austin and was a schoolmate in New York, and married him some time before he came to the Pacific Coast in 1856. No immediate relatives survive. Mr. Severson led a very quiet and retired life since his wife's death, and only occasionally visited the Y. M. C. A., where he rarely took part in any proceedings, but was an attentive listener. Funeral arrangements are in charge of the East Side Funeral Directors.

Miss Ernestine Heslop

The funeral of Miss Ernestine Heslop will be held Wednesday at 2 p. m. from the Trinity church and final services will be in Mount Scott Park cemetery. Miss Heslop died in Seattle November 26 of pneumonia following influenza. She was an employe of the Portland Public library for a number of years and for more than a year before her death had been employed in the Seattle Public library and the University of Washington library. The reason for the long delay in the funeral was to enable her brother, Paul L. Heglop, United States army, to attend. Miss Heslop was the niece of Miss Emily L. Loveridge, superintendent of the Good Samaritan hospital, and had many friends in Portland. She was born in New York but spent most of her life on the Pacific coast. Miss Heslop was a graduate of the University of California and the Drexel institute in Philadelphia. She was a member of the Alpha Chi Omega sorority. The funeral services will be private and are in charge of J. P. Finley & Son.

Frank Johns

The funeral of Frank Johns, aged 63, a former resident of Boise, Idaho, was held this afternoon from the Skewes Undertaking parlors and final services were in Rose City cemetery. He is survived by his widow, two sons and two daughters. He died last Thursday from influenza.

Fickert Exonerated Of Misconduct in Trying Mooney Case

San Francisco, Jan. 20.—(I. N. S.)—The San Francisco grand jury today returned a report before Presiding Judge George E. Clothers exonerating District Attorney Charles M. Fickert of all charges contained in the report made to Secretary of Labor Wilson by John B. Densmore. The report says that no evidence was disclosed even "tending to show either misconduct in office or malfeasance in office, or the commission of any crime, on the part of the district attorney or any of his assistants."

In his report to Secretary Wilson, Densmore asserted that Fickert held frequent conversations with members of San Francisco's underworld, and that the evidence which resulted in the conviction of Thomas J. Mooney was made up largely of perjured testimony.

DIED IN COUNTRY'S SERVICE IN FRANCE

Wilbur H. Slonecker

Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Slonecker of Ada, Or., received word recently from Washington, D. C., that their son, Wilbur H. Slonecker, died while in service in France, a victim of pneumonia.

Wilbur Slonecker entered the service in June, and was sent to Camp Lewis and thence to Camp Kearny, where he was assigned to company H, One Hundred Fifty-seventh infantry, Fortieth division, and left for France with his company. After an illness in a French hospital during the early part of September, he was sent back to his company and went to the front with a replacement troop, near Metz. No details of his further experience or of his death have been received by his parents at Ada.

Fined in U. S. Court For Having Liquor In Their Possession

E. C. Genereaux representative of the French government during the building of 20 wooden ships for that nation by the Foundation company, was fined $250 by Federal Judge Wolverton today for violation of the Reed amendment. Genereaux was arrested today by agents of the department of justice and United States attorney B. E. Haney recommended a fine instead of a jail sentence.

L. J. Barker pleaded guilty to a similar offense and the court imposed a like fine. Barker had in his possession four quarts of whiskey and two quarts of wine. Genereaux had ten and one-half quarts of liquor in his possession.

The fine is the third imposed by the court in the last two days, R. E. Carlton being fined last Saturday morning.

Pre-War Wages Are Being Paid Again

Washington, Jan. 20.—(U. P.)—"Employers in several sections of the country have already reduced wages to a pre-war basis," Secretary Morrison of the American Federation of Labor charged today. In some instances, Morrison alleged, employes have been discharged and then been offered their jobs back at much lower wages. Other employers have simply posted a notice that on a certain date all wages would be decreased, he said.

No Truth to Report Of Higher Tariffs

Washington, Jan. 20.—(U. P.)—Director General Hines today declared as unfounded reports that the railroad administration contemplated raising of either freight or passenger rates.

Airplane Is Wrecked

Evansville, Ind., Jan. 20.—(I. N. S.)—An airplane flying from Waco, Texas, to Detroit, laying out an aerial mail route, was wrecked when an attempt was made to land here Sunday afternoon. The machine was driven by Lieutenant Maurice A. Sharp of Greencastle, Ind., and Lieutenant A. B. Bassi, both of the United States army. The machine was abandoned.

DEMURRER FILED BY MAN ACCUSED IN A FATAL AUTO MISHAP

N. P. Sorenson Says He Knows Nothing of Accident Causing Mrs. Clark's Death.

N. P. Sorenson, president of the Bear Creek Logging company, under indictment for involuntary manslaughter in connection with the killing of Mrs. Mina Clark last month, at West Park and Oak streets, filed a demurrer to the indictment this morning and asked that he be not required to plead further until his demurrer is heard and determined. He sets forth that the facts stated in the indictment do not "constitute a crime," and that the particular facts necessary to constitute a complete crime are not stated in the indictment.

Mrs. Clark was run down and killed by a Winton touring car, the driver of which drove away without stopping. Next day Sorenson's Winton was found by the police to have a damaged radiator and lamps. He offered no explanation as to the damage, but denied all knowledge of the accident.

SUIT FOR SLANDER BEGUN

Salem Man Asks $30,000 Damages for Remarks.

Charles D. Schmid, a landowner of Salem, is defendant in a suit for $30,000 damages for alleged slander begun before a jury in Circuit Judge Kavanaugh's court this morning. J. L. Landis, the plaintiff, sets forth in his complaint that he was the lessee of Schmid's farm and that while his son Adelbert occupied one of the houses on the place, a horse barn and a hay barn caught fire and burned, and that thereafter Schmid in the presence of witnesses said, "That d—— Landis and his son Bert set fire to my barns," rendering him (Landis) liable to prosecution for arson. The fire occurred October 4, 1916. The alleged slanderous statement was made in April, 1917.

WILL IS IN PROBATE

Daughters and Son Get Bulk of $30,000 Estate.

The will of Peter H. Schulderman, who died in this city January 8, was filed for probate in the county court this morning. The bulk of his estate, which was stated not to exceed $30,000 in value, was bequeathed to his son and two daughters, Henry J. Schulderman, Marie Banfield and Henrietta Edwards. Bequests of $500 each were made to two brothers, Karl Schulderman and Henry Schulderman, living in Amsterdam, Holland. Bequests of $100 were made to each grandchild.

Henry J. Schulderman, Marie Banfield and Henrietta Edwards were named as executors to act without bonds.

Firm Claims Bill

Stating that they had a valid claim for $19,003 against the estate of W. W. Cotton, deceased, Jones Brothers & Co. filed an objection to the final account of Fannie C. Cotton, executrix, in the county court this morning. They assert that the claim was presented to the executrix, but disallowed. They ask that the estate be not closed until the claim be adjudicated. Hearings on the matter will be had by Judge Tazwell February 3 at 2 p. m.

Plead Not Guilty

George Howard and E. Morris, indicted jointly on a charge of obtaining money under false pretenses, pleaded not guilty before Presiding Judge Stapleton this morning. They are charged with having borrowed $600 from H. H. Kuhn on an alleged spurious mortgage.

PERILS MET NOBLY BY FRANCE PROVE METTLE

(Continued From Page One)

purpose, the cloud of sinister sign—this shadow lay at the very borders of France.

America Now Understands

And yet it is fine to remember here that for France this was not only a peril but a challenge. France did not tremble. France, in her own way, prepared her sons for the struggle that was coming. She never took the initiative nor did a single thing that was aggressive. She had prepared herself for defense, not in order to impose her will upon other people. She had prepared herself that no other people might impose its will upon her.

As I stand with you and as I mix with the delightful people of this country, I see this in their thoughts: America always was our friend. Now she understands. Now she comprehends and now she has come to bring us this message, that, understanding, she will always be ready to help.

And while, as you say, sir, this danger may prove to be a continuing danger, while it is true that France will always be nearest this threat; if we cannot turn it from a threat into a promise, there are many elements that ought to reassure France.

There is a new awakening and an awakened world. It is not ahead of us, but around us. It knows that its dearest interests are involved in its standing together for a common purpose. It knows that the peril of France, if it continues, will be the peril of the world. It knows that not only France must organize against this peril but that the world must organize against it.

World Standing by France

So I see in these welcomes not only hospitality, not only kindness, not only hopes, but a clearly-defined purpose that men, understanding one another, must now support one another, and that all the sons of freedom are under a common oath to see that freedom never suffers this danger again.

But to my mind it is the impressive element of this welcome. I know how much of it, sir, and I know how little of it to appropriate to myself. I know that I have the very distinguished honor to represent a nation whose heart is in this business and I am proud to speak for the people whom I represent.

I know that you honor me in a representative capacity, and that my words have value only in the United States. I delight in this welcome, therefore, if I had brought the people of the United States with me and they could see in your faces what I see in the tokens of welcome and affection.

The sum of the whole matter is that France has earned and has won the brotherhood of the world. She has stood at the chief post of danger, and the thoughts of mankind and her brothers everywhere—her brothers in freedom—turn to her and center upon her.

If this be true, as I believe it to be, France is fortunate to have suffered. She is fortunate to have proved her mettle as one of the champions of liberty, and she has tied to herself, once and for all, all those who love freedom and truly believe in the progress and rights of man.

France and Wilson Friends

Aritonio DuBost, president of the French senate, in welcoming President Wilson at the luncheon given by the senate to the American executive, said:

"From your first step on the land of France, since your entry into Paris the French people spontaneously gave their hearts to you and they perceived in your frank smile, in your so loyal and open physiogomy that you too were spontaneously giving yourself to them,

"We welcome here, Mr. President, you and your ideas. Nowhere could your splendid ambition to substitute for the periodically broken equilibrium of material forces the definite award of moral forces elicit more enthusiasm than in the senate, since the statutes than in the senate, since tht statutes of international peace have been, first of all for a long time prepared by some of its most eminent members.

Believes With President

"But be assured also, Mr. President, that there is nowhere in the world a country committed to a more formidable security than in France, being directly subjected to the secular thrust of a proud race which seems to be driven by some ancient longing for conquest. Our national problem consists, therefore, in combining our European past, our actual material security with the conditions of the new order for which you give so noble a formula, because this new order will have to lean on some force of which France, when all is told and done, will stand as the most advanced and most exposed sentinel.

"We firmly believe with you, Mr. President, and allow me to add, great and sincere friend, that a new world order, and perhaps a new world harmony, are possible, in which France will join, for it was for that nearly 1,400,000 men have just given up their lives.

Task Held Worthy of Man

"It is with such a hope that we shall most willingly participate in the sublime crusade which you come to undertake on the devastated soil of old Europe, where hatred and discord still howl after the guns have become silent, and where anarchy causes a vast part of mankind to stagger.

"The task is a gigantic one, but it is worthy of your country, accustomed as it is to great undertakings, and of ours with our ancient artisanship of western civilization, and it is worthy of you, Mr. President, with your great heart and your high intelligence, which we salute with a joyful hope and fervent acclamation."

Grand Canyon to Be National Park

Washington, Jan. 20.—(U. P.)—The house today passed a bill establishing Grand Canyon national park in Arizona, Arizona.

HERE FOR NEW ERA CONFERENCE

From left to right—Dr. William F. Wier, who delivered the principal address at luncheon today; David McConaughy, who has charge of the stewardship bureau of the New Era movement; Dr. George G. Mahy, secretary of the permanent committee on evangelism; Dr. W. E. Biederwolf, president of the Family Altar league; J. Frank Smith, moderator of the general assembly; B. C. Holt, secretary of the movement.

FIGHTERS IN THREE WARS ARE FORMING NEW ORGANIZATION

United American War Veterans Being Formed to Include All Active Service Men.

Organization of the United American War Veterans, composed of men and women who have seen service in any of the American wars or who are now in the service, is under way in Portland.

No man will be admitted into the association who has not seen actual service is the decree of the organization committee. Acting officers until the local chapter has been formed and permanent officers elected, are: W. L. Reauveau, directing divisional commander-in-chief; William E. Goodwin, chief of staff, and J. W. Waterhouse, adjutant general, all of whom have just recently been mustered out of the service.

National headquarters of the Veterans is in New York city, of which Warren S. Fisher is chairman.

"This organization will be the official war association," said Mr. Reauveau this morning. "It will be the biggest thing that ever happened, and will include G. A. R. and Spanish War Veterans as well as those of the world war. Its purpose is the welding of all bodies of veterans of the military and naval service of the United States into one compact and nation-wide federation, each affiliated body retaining its individual existence as now, if desired, but all acting through the United American Veterans for greater efficiency and economy. The plans for organization are well under way and a meeting will be held at an early date to complete the organization. We shall be glad to talk with any discharged soldier, sailor or marine, who is interested in the matter."

Temporary headquarters of the organization are 721 Dekum building.

CHURCH HAS DUTY, TO HIT BOLSHEVISM

(Continued From Page One)

entire United States, Dr. J. Frank Smith, of Dallas, Texas, moderator of the General Assembly, stated this morning: "The purpose of the conferences is to enlist the whole church behind the whole church's cause, and these district conferences are to enlist leaders of churches in every section."

American Home Comes First

"We will never save America from Bolshevism or other threatening disorders until we push the force of our endeavors across the threshold of the American home," Dr. W. E. Biederwolf, of Chicago, president of the Family Altar league, testified.

George C. Mahy of Philadelphia, general secretary of the permanent committee on evangelism, made the following statement anent the scope of the conference:

"The New Era movement of the Presbyterian church is the name of a plan adopted and organization effected for the purpose of uniting every national agency of the church with all the local churches in a drive for a 100 per cent increase in the efficiency of the whole church in its activity at home and abroad. In the work of evangelism, for example, the Presbyterian church proposes to develop its own resources and its own forces, for the conduct of evangelistic work under direction of its own agencies, and to do this on a scale of sufficient size to meet any need that arises."

Dr. W. H. Foulkes of New York, and formerly of Portland, general secretary of the New Era movement, although unable to attend the local conference, has sent the following statement in answer to questions:

"Is the New Era movement designed to make Presbyterians of everybody?" Dr. Foulkes was asked.

Real Work Explained

"Not at all. The New Era movement is simply a real, live, united movement of all the 1,631,748 Presbyterian communicants in the United States towards accomplishing the tremendous task confronting the church as a result of the world war."

"What is that task?"

"The betterment of mankind in ways that the world war has as yet failed to accomplish. The war was fought for Christian ideals. Now that the war is won, it is the church's duty to carry out these ideals to their ultimate fulfillment."

"What practical steps will the Presbyterians take?"

"As a sample of the church's new conception of its relation to world affairs, the Presbyterians will spend $500,000 for the relief of stricken Protestant churches in the war zone, and $500,000 on returning soldiers and sailors who went to war from Presbyterian homes. They plan to utilize the resources within the church to increase by 100 per cent their expenditures for educational, benevolent and missionary work.

To Spend $75,000,000

"They propose to spend $13,000,000 this year, and perhaps $75,000,000 in five years. The Presbyterians believe that in five years the new era movement can accomplish more for humanity than the war accomplished with all its sacrifice. And they are marshaling all their forces as comrades of the new era for a world-wide crusade under the banner of their 'Prince of Peace.'

"Is the church doing anything for its ministers?"

"Yes. It plans to increase underpaid pastors' salaries $1,000,000 this year. The $13,000,000 for the church boards is only a portion of the church expenses. The total budget for this year will really be $40,000,000, as $27,000,000 will be required for local church expenses."

"How will our town benefit by this new era movement?"

"Through the re-creation of the spirit of fellowship and brotherhood among our own people, through the thinking by each individual of his personal duty in community terms, through the solving of such local neighborhood and social problems as confront us, through the Christianizing of the community.

Spiritual Side Uppermost

"The new era movement is essentially a spiritual force, cultivating personal and home virtues, reviving the family altar, evangelizing the people, spreading the Gospel through the community, and administering practical aid and comfort to those in need or distress."

"Has not the church always considered these things its duty?"

"The church has been, like the American people, a giant not exerting its full power. The war woke up America. The new era movement is the resistless force of the re-awakened church to win the world for Christ."

The evening supper conference will be held at 5:30 and a mass meeting at the First Presbyterian church at 7:45 this evening.

Negro Murderer Is Burned at Stake

Hillsboro, Texas, Jan. 20.—(U. P.)—Bragg Williams, negro, murderer of Mrs. George Williams and her infant son, was taken from officers here today and burned at a stake on the public square by a mob.

Stage Hands Win

Washington, Jan. 20.—(U. P.)—Movie stagehands won a case before the war labor board here today. The Lasky studio of Famous Players, Los Angeles, was ordered to reinstate all the stagehands who recently went on a strike. Only about 50 per cent were taken back. The war board today dropped the labor dispute between employes and the Garfield Smelting company, Salt Lake City.

MAJOR WETHERBEE IS HOME FROM SERVICE IN MEDICAL CORPS

Portland Physician Has Had Extensive Experience Fitting Men for Overseas.

Major J. R. Wetherbee of the United States army medical corps service, residing at 687 Tillamook street, former president of the Portland Commercial club and one of Portland's most prominent civic workers, surprised his Portland friends by returning Sunday, unannounced, to his home, after an absence of 18 months in military service.

Major Wetherbee was given an honorable discharge from the service January 12 and came home in his civilian clothes from Fort Riley, Kan., where he had been located during the greater part of his service. He enlisted in the work of organization of government medical facilities early in July, 1917, and after spending three weeks at Camp Lewis, Wash., went to Fort Riley as commander of the sanitary train.

His work was of such a character that shortly before the armistice was signed he was recommended for promotion to lieutenant colonel. His work included the organization and training of field hospital and ambulance companies for overseas duties.

The major was also associated with the general staff officers at the officers' training camp later instituted at the camp and assisted in the training and instruction of officers in overseas duty. He was in contact with as high as 5000 officers and 9000 enlisted men at a time at the camp.

Before entering the service Major Wetherbee was a physician with offices in the Medical building.

He was one of the planners of the Terwilliger boulevard and originators of the plans for The Auditorium, having traveled extensively over the country several years ago gathering data.

Marrying Parson Must Pay Alimony

Chicago, Ill., Jan. 20.—(I. N. S.)—Rev. James Morrison Darnell, who became known as the "marrying parson" because of the numerous marriages into which he entered without taking the trouble to dissolve any of them, will have to pay alimony to Mrs. Ruth Soper Darnell, one of the wives who divorced him several years ago in Minnesota. The appellate court here ruled that, although the divorce was obtained in Minnesota, the divorced wife could obtain alimony in this state. Darnell, following a term in the penitentiary, is preaching in a Chicago auditorium.

Printers Oppose Strike for Mooney

Indianapolis, Ind., Jan. 20.—(I. N. S.)—Resolutions opposing a general sympathetic strike advocated as a means of forcing issues in the Thomas Mooney case were adopted by the National State Conference of Typographical unions meetings here Sunday. The typos also adopted resolutions against organization of a labor party or any separate political organization.

Ray Ercholtz Injured

Ray Ercholtz of 737½ Savier street fell from a gang plank at 309 East Washington street Sunday and received a severe shock and bruises about the body. He was removed to Good Samaritan hospital.

U. S. Warships at Italy

Civitavecchia, Italy, Jan. 20.—(U. P.)—The American warship Leonidas and 27 submarine chasers arrived here today. The crews will visit Rome.

Two Killed and 40 Injured in Railroad Wrecks in Chicago

Chicago, Jan. 20.—(I. N. S.)—Two wrecks in Chicago's North Side section—one of a "Jackie Special" on the Chicago-Northwestern railroad, in which two were killed and between 30 and 40 injured, and the other between two Ravenswood "L" trains in which eight persons were injured—occurred early today, both due to the heaviest fog Chicago has experienced in years.

In the Chicago-Northwestern wreck, I. A. Paynter, a first class carpenter of the Great Lakes department of public works, sustained a fractured skull and internal injuries which resulted in his death. Brakeman John S. McGinnis of the "Jackie Special" died shortly after being taken to the hospital.

The special carried about 1500 sailors. Between 30 and 40 were injured, but at the hospital it was believed all would recover.

While rescuers were being hurried to the scene of the Northwestern wreck a call was sent in for ambulances to be rushed to the Irving Park "L" station, where first reports had a score killed in an "L" wreck.

Two Ravenswood "L" trains had collided in the fog. Eight persons were injured, two probably fatally. Several hundred passengers on the "L" trains were thrown into a panic and were taken from the "L" structure with difficulty.

Dry Commissioner, Accused of Theft Of Liquor, Is Freed

Vancouver, B. C., Jan. 20.—(I. N. S.)—Another chapter in the serio-comic proceedings against Walter Findlay, discharged prohibition commissioner of British Columbia, was written today when Magistrate Shaw handed down a decision exonerating Findlay of the charge of stealing 72 cases of liquor from a government warehouse.

It is believed the prosecution of the case failed because Attorney General Farris' department failed to show that the liquor was not kept in "Findlay's warehouse." The magistrate ruled that as Findlay had full authority to shift liquor from place to place, so far as the evidence went, the liquor may still be in the warehouse.

Bulgarian Cabinet, With Pacifist Head, Reported Resigned

London, Jan. 20.—(U. P.)—The Bulgarian cabinet has resigned, a Sofia dispatch announced this morning.

Premier Malinoff, leader of the pacifist faction in Bulgaria, became head of the cabinet shortly after the Bulgarian armistice was signed.

Unidentified Woman Is Struck by Auto

An unidentified woman was struck by an automobile at Third and Morrison streets early this morning and sustained a severe cut in the back of her head and bruises. She was removed to Good Samaritan hospital. The injury is not thought to be a skull fracture. The automobile was in charge of F. Smith of 88 Eleventh street, who reported that the woman stepped off the curb in front of his machine. Hospital authorities could not get her name definitely, as she cannot speak English, but think it may be Rose Bonborne.

Coroner to Hold Inquest

Coroner Smith announced this morning that an inquest would be held this evening in room 446 courthouse into the death of Joe Him, who was killed Friday by an automobile in charge of Mrs. C. L. Knierien of 1693 Dight street.

Everyone, old and young, can drink
INSTANT POSTUM
with benefit to health. ... A delicious, drug-free beverage.

PRIZE ORIENTAL RUGS AT AUCTION!

10th Session Tonight 8 to 10 P. M.

14 Grand Prizes Won at International Expositions

You Can Buy Them Now at Your Own Price!

11th Session Tomorrow 2 to 5 P. M.

See them on exhibition between sessions and make selections, if you wish, of any that you would like to have offered to the highest bidder at the following session.

Every known kind of Oriental Rug, every size you may desire, and an endless assortment of patterns will be found among these wonderful collections, all of which are included in this sale.

The Proverbial Atiyeh guarantee of satisfaction will apply.

West's Largest Oriental Rug Dealers

Atiyeh Bros.

Corner Tenth and Alder