

# RANK IGNORANCE OF TRAFFIC LAW PROVES COSTLY

### Some of Drivers Admit They Have Not Read Rules or Even Heard of Them in Some Cases.

Frank Robbins, the notorious violator of traffic laws and participant in accidents, now driving for the Union Laundry company, has added to his extensive assortment of collisions, arrests and offenses. After eight accidents in seven months in which three pedestrians were struck down, and after 10 violations of the traffic laws, and seven arrests, Robbins was arrested last week for driving without proper lights, and crowned his formidable record with failure to appear in court.

### BENCH WARRANT ISSUED

A bench warrant has been issued for him. The record of Robbins makes interesting other cases that have appeared at the police station recently, cases in which drivers who didn't know what traffic rules are, smashed into buildings, vehicles and human beings.

Friday a Japanese endeavored to pilot his automobile between a moving streetcar, a bicycle and the curb. He struck the streetcar and glanced into the bicycle. The rider was injured. An officer held a traffic book before the Japanese.

"Have you ever seen one of these before?" The Japanese shook his head in the negative.

"Do you know what it is for?" He again shook his head. "Can you read?" "Don't know," answered the Jap. He had never heard of traffic laws.

Another offender admitted he had never read the rules. He said his wife had read them.

Another man learned to drive in a barnyard. On his first trip in the street he dashed through a filling station at Alberta and Union, wrecking everything in sight. He knew nothing of traffic rules. In fact, he admitted he could neither read nor write.

At Fourth and Harrison streets a woman drove a machine onto the sidewalk and sent a man to the hospital with legs broken and a fractured arm. She had been traveling west on Fourth. Another machine, bound north on Harrison, crowded her at the intersection. To avoid the collision she went directly ahead to the sidewalk. Questioned as to why she hadn't turned to the right, she insisted the other machine wouldn't allow her.

A driver came in to report an accident. He admitted that he had never read the traffic rules, and said no one had ever told him about them. He had driven a machine two years. He said he had paid damages after several accidents because he didn't know whether he was

right or wrong. "I don't know," he said, "so I pay."

### IGNORANCE IS MENACE

Investigation shows that scores, if not hundreds of drivers who are daily on congested thoroughfares, have never seen a book of traffic rules, know nothing of what the rules are and whose lack of information is a constant menace and a very frequent cause of accidents. A feature in the fact that they are handling cars is that, in the many cases in which they cannot read newspapers they are beyond the reach of a campaign of education, they do not know about the mounting toll of accidents and, except by instructing them in person, there is no way to make them realize the importance of safe driving.

# CONFESSED BANDIT IS WANTED IN EAST

### One of Trio Held for Robberies Here Broke Jail at Moorhead, Minnesota, Last Summer.

Charles Langdale, one of the three confessed holdup men captured Friday by a detachment of inspectors, headed by Lieutenant Jack Goltz, admitted Sunday afternoon, the police say, that he escaped from the Clay county jail, Moorhead, Minnesota, where he was held for grand jury investigation on a charge of robbery in the first degree.

Under the name of Charles Cross, alias "Red" Cross, in company with James Miller, alias "Scotty," Langdale broke jail on September 7, 1919, according to the story told the inspectors.

Langdale denied that he was guilty of the charge specified in a circular sent out by Minnesota authorities. He is a SUSPECT "JOB" SERIOUS

Langdale told the police that he and Miller, his companion, entered Moorhead about 10 o'clock one morning. That night, he said, there was a robbery committed, and he and his companion were arrested on suspicion. The place robbed in Moorhead was a grocery store, Langdale stated, but the alarm at his capture, an offer of \$3000 if he was released, and other circumstances of the investigation led the police to suspect that the alleged crime was not merely a store burglary.

Sawing through steel bars, it is said, the two men climbed out of a second story window, reaching the ground by means of a rope made from torn blankets tied together. Langdale told the police he did not know where Miller was now, as they soon separated.

Russell Higginbotham, one of the three confessed robbers, who was living with a young unmarried girl at the time of his capture, was married to Elizabeth Chapman, Woodburn, Or., in 1912, according to information in the possession of Lieutenant Jack Goltz. He has two sons, Albert, 6, and Richard, 5, who live with their mother in Portland, according to Goltz's informant.

### IS WIFE DESERTER

In 1915 he is said to have deserted his wife. Shortly afterward he was ordered by the court in Salem to pay \$20 a month to her support, say the police. Robert John Hall, 19, Charles Langdale, 27, and Russell Oliver Higginbotham are charged with six recent

# TWO LEAGUES OF WOMEN MAY SEND DELEGATES EAST

### League of Women Voters and League of Women Citizens to Have National Representation.

Two organizations may represent Portland women in Chicago when the National League for Women Voters meets February 12.

Both the Oregon League of Women Voters, incorporated last week, and the League of Women Citizens probably will send delegates.

Mrs. C. B. Simmons, new president of the League of Women Citizens, believes that any remnant of the national suffrage organization should now include men in its fight for uplifting legislation for women and children.

"Now that national women suffrage is almost a fact, the women in the National League for Women Voters are turning to educational problems. We believe that the name of the organization should be changed, and that men as well as women become members," Mrs. Simmons said. "We won't enter politics."

She declared she knew nothing of the incorporated body, and neither had any information to divulge regarding a possible later consolidation.

Mrs. Maria H. Hadden, president of the incorporated body, was not willing Saturday night to announce the program of her organization. Just now, she explained, her forces were busy unifying Oregon women. Later a program will be announced, with chairman of the committee.

Her club, she declares, is non-partisan. One section of the articles of incorporation so maintains.

The League of Women Citizens met Saturday afternoon, when it was decided to send delegates to the big convention in Chicago, February 12. The other organization here will also send delegates.

# Woman Wins Her Suit Against City

### Suit of Mrs. Clara Bell Lammers to Quiet Title to Property on the Old Macadam Road South of Porter Street Was Won Today when Federal Judge Wolvertson Handed Down a Decision Against the City of Portland.

It was alleged that the city took the property when it acquired the old Macadam road in 1885.

holdups in the city. The places robbed were: Ainsworth garage, December 28; Fashion garage, January 1; Frank Nau drug store, January 7; Standard Oil filling station, Thirteenth and Burnside streets, January 13; Auto Laundry & Garage, January 14; Nob Hill Pharmacy, January 16. The trio are said to have obtained more than \$1000 in money and valuables.

All three have been bound over to the grand jury and will be brought up for hearing in a few days.

# Rear-End Collision On C. P. R. Kills 15 And Injures Score

Ottawa, Ont., Jan. 25.—(U. P.)—At least 15 persons are dead and a score injured as a result of a rear-end collision of two sections of the Vancouver express on the Canadian Pacific at Corbell, Ont., yesterday. Seven were killed instantly and eight others died en route to hospitals in North Bay, 10 miles west of Corbell.

Among the dead are: Mrs. Susan Pedden, Vancouver, B. C.; Wallace and Hugh Pedden, her sons; James Tilley, Vancouver; Dr. J. W. Chambers, Calgary; W. Beall, Vancouver, B. C.; C. Simmons, sleeping car porter.

The injured included: Charles H. Beall, Vancouver; Arthur Bengalla, Calgary; Helen Breckenridge, Calgary; Captain Leslie B. Burrows, Victoria; C. A. Codere, Winnipeg, Man.; Maude Copley, Winnipeg, Man.; Lieutenant Colonel R. Inna, Victoria; Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Lemme, Calgary; Miss McLaughlin, Vancouver; Mrs. G. Murray, Saskatoon; Captain G. MacLaren, Victoria; George Rasmussen, Seattle; Mrs. George Rasmussen; Miss Dorothy Skeene, Los Angeles; T. J. Spencer, Medicine Hat, Alta.; G. E. Graham, Winnipeg; John Adamson, Calgary.

### Charles L. Ballard Of Civil War Fame Gets Final Muster

Lieutenant Colonel Charles L. Ballard, who died at the Gunter residence, 121 Farragut street, Tuesday, December 6, came to Oregon in 1881 and settled in Pendleton, where he established himself for many years, last coming to Portland.

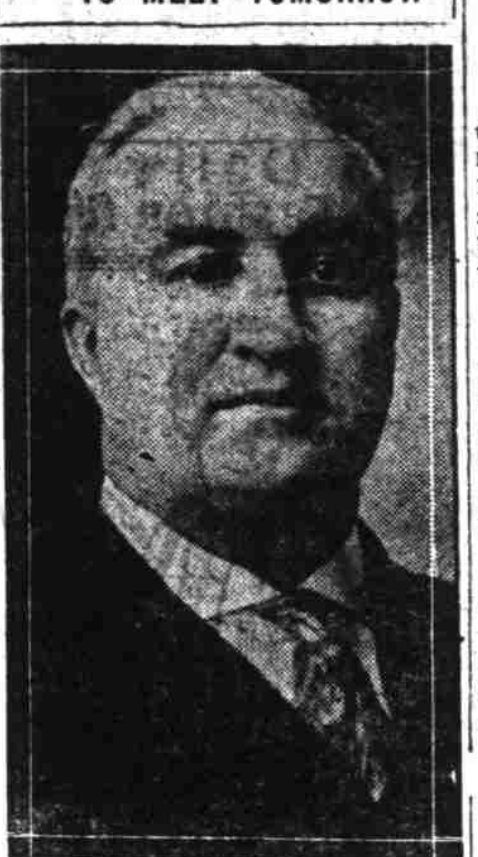
He was born September 26, 1839. Soon after the Civil War broke out he enlisted as a first lieutenant in the 38th regiment of infantry, Wisconsin volunteers. He was promoted to captain on September 26, 1864, and made a major in July, 1865. At the time of his honorable discharge he held the rank of lieutenant-colonel. He was wounded many times. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Alice Ballard, a daughter, Mrs. Jess. Rich, and a son, Ira Ballard, all of Portland.

# Republican Meeting Is Called in Idaho

Boise, Idaho, Jan. 25.—John Thomas, chairman of the state Republican committee, officially called the state central committee to meet here February 12 to decide the time and place for the state convention to elect delegates to the national convention. The call was issued under provisions of the amended state primary law, which abolished the state primary as it applies to nominations of congressional and state candidates.

Unification of the north and south factions in China is imminent, according to cable advices received at Honolulu.

# HARDWARE ASSOCIATION TO MEET TOMORROW



A. L. Jameson

The fourteenth annual convention of the Oregon Retail Hardware and Implement Dealers' association will be held in Portland, commencing tomorrow and lasting through Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. The gathering will be called to order by A. L. Jameson of McMinnville, president of the organization, and will be held in the Elizabethan room of the Imperial hotel. Delegates from all parts of the state are expected to be in attendance. Curtis M. Johnson of Rush City, Minn., will deliver two addresses before the convention adjourns, while W. W. Cooley, Western representative of the Burroughs Adding Machine company, will make one of the principal addresses of the meeting. The annual convention of the Pacific Northwest Hardware and Implement association was held in Spokane last week and E. E. Lucas of Spokane, who is secretary of the Northwest body, is secretary of the Oregon State association as well. Quite a number of Washington members will be in Portland this week to attend the convention.

# Debate on One Way Traffic to Feature Kiwanis Luncheon

Discussion of one-way traffic will be the main feature of the Kiwanis club luncheon, Tuesday, January 27, at the Benson hotel. Arguments will be offered pro and con, and an attempt will be made to convince the city council to act one way or another on the matter.

### Suicide Report Denied

Richard Donnelly, reported Saturday to have committed suicide in Seattle because he could not find work and because his wife had left him, is alive and well in Portland, according to H. A. Miller, brother-in-law. Miller claims to have seen Donnelly just a few days ago.

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Only \$8.25 for \$13.50 values

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