

SAD STORY OF MAN WHO SAVED BULB INDUSTRY IS TOLD

Purchase of Eureka, Cal., Farm by Salem Interests Recalls Narrative of C. Willis Ward.

A recent press dispatch from Salem announcing the purchase of the Eureka, Cal., bulb farms from the Ward estate by an Oregon concern with the intention of removing the bulb industry to Oregon's capital, marks the closing chapter in the tragic life story of Charles Willis Ward, capitalist, promoter and philanthropist. Ward died in Eureka June 24, 1920. The coroner's record notes that Ward died from "pneumonia and causes usually attributed to old age"; he was 64 years old. San Francisco, Portland, Seattle and Eastern men, his old associates, insist their friend died of a broken heart.

A PRACTICAL PHILANTHROPIST

Charles Willis Ward was a native of Michigan, in which state he was actively engaged in the nursery business in the latter '90s, when he inherited a fortune from his father estimated at approximately \$1,000,000. Ward announced his intention to devote his inheritance to helping his fellowman to help himself and to the development of neglected though fertile sections of the country.

Turning his Michigan nurseries over to his brother-in-law, Ward went to Louisiana to personally finance the reclamation of Mississippi river delta lands, a project he had frequently endeavored to enlist the Southern state's legislature and private citizens in developing, that the poorer classes in the Pelican state might share with the rich in the ownership of Louisiana's fertile lands. He induced a wealthy Louisiana planter of national recognition to engage with him in constructing dikes along the Mississippi river, thus reclaiming thousands of acres of inundated lands. Ward divided his share of the reclaimed lands into small tracts and sold them to native land renters at a nominal price and upon terms which the poverty-stricken tenants of the Southern plantations could meet through the cultivation of their newly-acquired holdings. The Louisianian preferred adding his share of the rich delta lands to his enormous estate, and thus materially increasing his huge fortune through the labor of negroes and poor whites of that section.

TURNS TO CALIFORNIA

While touring the Pacific Northwest in 1913 Ward was deeply moved over what he termed "the rubens slaughter of the Pacific coast's wonderful forests for commercial purposes." With the purpose, though vaguely outlined, of preserving a vast forest of giant sequoias in Northern California, Ward bought several heavily timbered tracts of land along the Klamath river near the Oregon-California border, which were recently appraised by the Ward estate at approximately one-half million dollars.

Falling to interest lumber manufacturers in dividing their cut-over timber lands into small dairy and nursery tracts and encouraging the development of the idle lands, Ward again put into practice his theory of practical philanthropy. Formulating a colony of nursery and dairying enterprises extending over an area of 50 miles square, Ward invested the remainder of his fortune in purchasing the cut-over lands of Humboldt county, of which Eureka is the capital, established several large dairy farms and nurseries throughout the county, stocked his enterprises well and then offered shares to every citizen of moderate means who cared to engage with him in the development of the county and to divide the profits of its development. Purebred Jersey cattle were imported to stock the dairy farms, and only the choicest shrubs were purchased for stocking the nurseries. These enterprises are known nationally as the Cottage Garden nurseries.

DEVELOPED BULB SUPPLY

Ward saw the demoralization of the bulb industry of Holland at the beginning of the world war—though how he discerned that calamity is a secret which went with him to his grave—and immediately began importing bulbs, developing the bulb farms recently purchased by the Salem concern, which are still the world's source of bulb supplies.

TRAGEDY ENTERS

Ward's friendship for a San Francisco

TRAGIC LIFE STORY REVIEWED



Charles Willis Ward, whose career is recalled by disposition of the large estate which he left at his death in Eureka, Cal., several months ago.

woman and her two daughters, begun in the latter part of 1918, brought into his life the tragic events which estranged him from his family, indirectly hastened his death and caused the scores of lawsuits which for a time threatened the destruction of his entire fortune. Learning of his friendship for the San Francisco woman and her daughters, Ward's wife left him, and with her married son and daughter, and their families returned to Detroit, Mich., where they have since resided.

Thereafter Ward's visits with his San Francisco friends became more frequent, he finally inviting the mother and daughters to remove to Eureka and share with him his home. The invitation was accepted, and upon the arrival of his friends gossip became extremely alert. Ultimately Ward insisted his guests return to San Francisco.

DEATH IS HASTENED

Then followed a suit brought against Ward by one of the young women for breach of promise. His announced intention to fight the suit through which his former friends sought to collect approximately \$100,000. The publicity given the matter created a panic among the various stockholders of Ward's enterprises and petitions for receivers for his various concerns began to pour into the courts. Announcing that for the protection of his stockholders and his own interests he would compromise the breach of promise suit, though insisting there was no grounds for it, Ward paid the San Francisco woman \$50,000 and stopped the suit. Within a few weeks Ward took to his bed, from which he never arose, while stockholders and his attorneys fought in the courts over his estate.

WILL FOUND IN PORTLAND

It was thought at the time of his demise that Ward died intestate, but while litigants were fighting for a division of the dead man's estate, David Struss Ward, the son, learned of the existence of a will in the possession of a trusted friend of his father in Portland. The will was delivered to the California courts and filed for probate. Young Ward, who was made administrator of the estate by the Portland document, which has never been challenged, is rapidly settling up the affairs of the estate, satisfying the litigants and clearing the title to the valuable timber lands, all of which will be divided between Ward's children and brothers-in-

DECLARATIONS OF DR. WHITING DENIED BY FORMER WIFE

Order Filed Asks That Alimony Fixed in Divorce Proceeding Be Increased to \$300 Month.

Mrs. Ita Whiting, who is seeking an order from the court increasing from \$135 to \$300 a month the amount which her former husband, Dr. Sanford Whiting, must pay for the support of their two sons, filed a new affidavit Saturday, in which she makes refutation of the declarations of Dr. Whiting, who opposes the proposed increase in payments. She declares that Dr. Whiting married Mary E. Merges, with whom he was infatuated, while still her husband and that the second wife "was very wealthy," putting the physician in better financial position than he had ever been before. She says Dr. Whiting transferred to his second wife his real property interests and did not lose them as he has avowed.

Instead of a gross monthly income of \$688.50 claimed by Dr. Whiting, she says his income is \$1500 a month, he performing an average of two major surgical operations a day, for which he receives large fees. She declares that Dr. Whiting's alleged interest in his sons is not borne out by the facts; that two years ago he did send the boys some shirts and handkerchiefs, but that this was all until his return from Europe, when he sent them two neckties.

Mrs. Whiting avers that when they separated Dr. Whiting took a vast amount of goods from her residence, furniture and furnishings, until she was compelled to borrow spoons, knives and forks; that he made lavish expenditures on his extensive trip through Europe, taking the second Mrs. Whiting with him, and that his pretended interest in one of their sons since his return, taking the boy to his home for dinner frequently, is merely for the purpose of extracting from him such information as might be available to embarrass her in the prosecution of the motion to increase the payments for the support of the two sons.

WARREN BROS. FILE SUIT AGAINST LOCAL CONTRACTOR

Warren Brothers company of Boston has filed in the Multnomah county circuit court four suits in which it seeks to recover \$10,000, with interest and costs, for alleged failure of the Oregon Independent Paving company to complete payments on certain paving contracts awarded by the city of Portland to this company and sublet to the Warren concern.

The actions are against the Oregon Independent Paving company, the New Amsterdam Casualty company, the Hartford Accident and Indemnity company, the London and Lancashire Indemnity company and the National Surety company, named as co-defendants.

The improvements on which the question of payment arises are the paving of East Eighth street between Goble and Alberta streets; paving of Bybee avenue from East Twenty-second street to the paving in Eastmoreland; the paving of East Thirty-second street from Holgate street to Francis avenue; paving of Almsworth avenue from East Ninth street to East Tenth street; East Gilliam street from East Twenty-fourth to East Twenty-sixth streets; East Twenty-sixth street, from Finley street to Gilliam streets; Vancouver avenue from Wheeler street to Broadway; several streets in the district adjoining Broadway, Larabee and Union avenues; Madison street from Second to Fifth streets; and East Thirteenth street from Alberta street to Roselawn avenue.

Some of these street improvements reach back as far as the year 1916.

VAIN SEARCH IS MADE FOR MAN IN WELL

nothing to help my husband, so I decided to strike out for the telephone and let friends in Portland know where we were, and that we expected to be home soon.

VOICE PLEADS FOR AID

"I struggled along, over very rough country, crossing barbed wire fences and running into trees, and finally I came to a farm where there were some old shacks and barns, but I could see no farm house. I called, thinking someone would hear me and respond, if there were a house there. "I had called but twice when out of the fog came the clear voice of a man. I could not determine from what direction it came. "Help! help me!" was the anguished cry.

"Where are you?" I called out. "I'm down in a deep hole, with my leg broken and my shoulder so hurt that I cannot move," came the mysterious voice. I called back that I was looking for him, and kept running into trees and clumps of brush. "You won't leave until you find me, will you?" pleaded the voice out of the dense fog. I gave assurance that I would not. I kept wandering about, calling at frequent intervals.

NO FURTHER RESPONSE

"At one time the man answered and said he had been in the hole since the night before. The next time I called there was no response, and from that time onward, although I remained for a long time, and kept up my calling, there was no further reply.

"One cannot imagine my feelings. It seemed as if I was a disembodied spirit wandering through the mists, and that some other spirit had called out to me from the mysterious darkness.

"Finally I determined that the man had fainted or was dead, and that I had better try to get back to the road so that we could give the alarm. How I ever made the trip back I cannot understand. I lost my way, but instinct seemed to direct me. Finally I got back to a point where my calling was answered by my husband, but there was a great chasm or deep ravine between us, and I had to make a long detour to reach him. It was only by his constant calls that I directed my way. I shall never forget the experiences we have just had, the most uncanny in my entire life."

Chimney Catches Fire

A chimney burning out at the Keystone hotel, Sixth and Burnside, caused a fire alarm to be turned in shortly after 9 o'clock Saturday night, and three fire companies responded.

Young People Will Be Hosts Friday to Baptist Ministers

All Baptist pastors of the city are to be honored at a reception given at the White Temple next Friday evening by the Willamette Young People's association. Each pastor will be introduced by the president of his local B. Y. P. U., after which he will make a brief response. This constitutes the rally part of the program, the reception following immediately after. The Highland Baptist

orchestra will play during the evening. This will be the first reception of its kind every held in the city.

Brotherhood Is to Hold Annual Dinner

On Monday evening, the eve of St. Andrew's day, the local assembly of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew will hold its dinner and annual meeting in St. David's parish house, East Twelfth and Morrison. The president, A. C. Newbill, will introduce the chief speakers, Bishop Walter Taylor Sumner and John D. Alexander, from the headquarters in Philadelphia. New chapters of the

brotherhood are being formed and steady growth made throughout the country.

Mrs. Florence Shaffer Dead Mrs. Florence Theresa Shaffer died at her home, 1183 East Ninth street Thursday. The funeral was held at the Finley chapel Saturday afternoon.

The Rev. R. B. Hicks conducted the services. The body was interred at Mount Scott cemetery. Mrs. Shaffer is survived by her husband, Howard R. Shaffer, her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Bease, two sisters and two brothers.

Pendleton school census shows 1888 children of school age, an increase of 135 over the count made one year ago.

Cincinnati's Total Population of 1920 Given As 401,247

Washington, Nov. 27.—(I. N. S.)—The 1920 population of Cincinnati consists of 371,840 white, 29,636 negroes and 71 all other persons, Chinese, Japanese and Indians, a total of 401,247, the census bureau announced today.

The population of Louisville, Ky., is 254,891, of which 194,737 are white, 40,118 negroes and 19,036 all other persons, Chinese, Japanese and Indians.

MONTH-END SHOE SALE

Every shoe in our entire store is priced to net you astonishing value. Now even greater values are created by the lowering of our (already low) prices during this Month-End Sale. 40 lines of desirable shoes to choose from with a saving of \$2.50 to \$4.50 on every pair.



\$4.85

B1221—Two-eyelet Dixie tie of soft black kid, turn sole and covered French heel. Former price \$10.00.



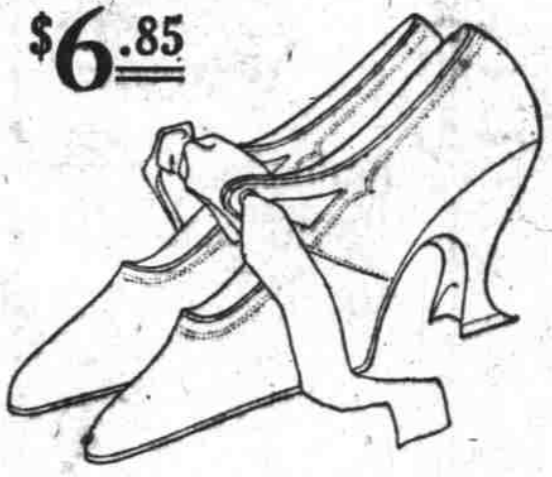
\$9.85

A2210—Nut brown calf oxford, full wing tip, welt sole and leather military heel. Former price \$12.50.



\$8.85

A1612—Brown kid street oxford with welt sole and leather French heel. Former price \$10.00.



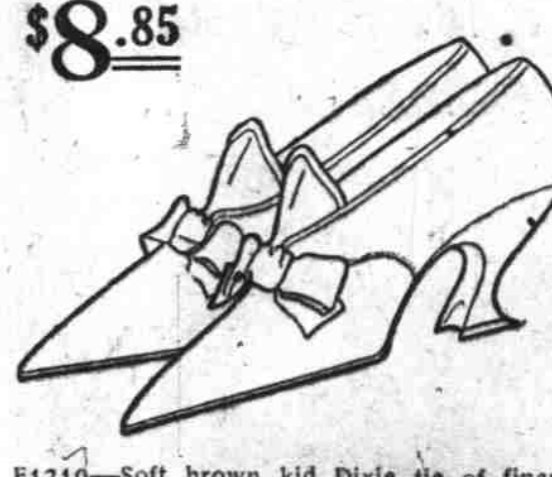
\$6.85

2336—Black satin Theo tie, medium short vamp, turn sole and satin covered LXV heel. Former price \$8.50.



\$8.85

2200—Laird & Schober tan calf pump with leather bow, welt sole and leather Cuban heel. Former price \$16.50.



\$8.85

E1210—Soft brown kid Dixie tie of finest quality, turn sole and covered French heel. Former price \$13.50. Same pattern in black kid.

In addition to the many attractive patterns in low shoes, we have included in this sale several lines of high grade boots at generously reduced prices. Here is your opportunity to buy your high shoes for winter and save a few dollars.

G.A. Baker

The Largest Retailer of Shoes West of Chicago

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