

JESSE P. WEBB IS PARDONED

Carson Asked to Attack Telephone Co. LIFE TERMER FREED BY RITNER; SCENE IS IMPRESSIVE ONE

OLCOTT WOULD HAVE KLUXERS SHOW SELVES

Governor Flays Hooded Organization and Points to Disastrous Results in Own State.

CONFERENCE ALSO TALKS PROHIBITION

Parker of Louisiana Would Permit Light Wines But Not Bootleg

WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, W. Va., Dec. 14.—Prohibition and the Ku Klux Klan were considered prominently at the fourteenth annual conference of governors at sessions today and tonight.

Governor John M. Parker of Louisiana, in an address late today, declared prohibition was a flat failure and denounced the Ku Klux Klan. He was joined in his attack on the secret organization by Governor Olcott of Oregon, who referred to the Klan in an address tonight as a national menace.

Prohibition Joke

The Louisiana governor said he referred to the subject of prohibition because of the intention of President Harding to call the governors in conference next month regarding the matter of prohibition enforcement.

Declaring the "prohibition" was almost a farce, he said it was infinitely better to abolish the saloon, permit light wines and beer to be sold and have the government regulate the manufacture and distribution of liquor with penitentiary sentences for those who defied clear and explicit liquor laws. Both the prohibition question and the Ku Klux Klan, Mr. Parker said, were black clouds threatening law and order.

Nights Not Liked

He asked that the governors put themselves on record at the conference as advocating that America should be ruled by her judiciary and not by an invisible Klan; that no masked men should be allowed to parade the streets and that federal legislation be enacted requiring secret organizations to file semi-annually with the department of justice sworn lists of their memberships.

Governor Olcott challenged the klansmen to unmask. "It is largely a political organization," he said, "founded for certain objects and purposes. Let it be specific. Let it throw down its gage of battle in the open lists so the tournament may be fought under the eyes of all mankind."

Points to Oregon

"In Oregon we have an example of what may become a national crisis. We have seen the injunctions of our forefathers disobeyed; we have seen class arrayed against class, neighbor against neighbor; we have seen families divided, communities split; we have seen cities, where for years nothing but peace and amity had existed, torn into contending factions where men went armed with guns, where deeds of violence were perpetrated under the guise of law enforcement and where all that once had been peace, harmony and trustfulness was turned into suspicion and hate.

How Would You Spend \$50.00 for Christmas?

Salem's Leading Merchants
Are going to help you solve this problem, and earn the \$50.00.
For the Solution See Page 4

COMMISSION CLAIMS UTILITY HAS FAILED TO COMPLY WITH LAW

Alleging that the Pacific Telephone & Telephone company has failed to comply with the law requiring that it keep such records as are specified by the public service commission, the commission has sent a letter to John H. Carson, district attorney for Marion county, requesting him to institute proceedings in court to enforce the penalty provided by the law. The penalty is a fine of not less than \$100 or more than \$10,000.

The particular grievance against the company is that it has failed to keep a separate depreciation reserve account as required by an order of the commission on May 1, 1919.

The letter to District Attorney Carson quotes two sections of the public utility act applying in the case and also quotes from the order of the commission. This order was on application of the telephone company for an increase in local exchange rates. This part of the order was repeated in substance in another order on November 29, 1919.

"We wish to present to you the following facts relative to the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph company and request that you take appropriate action thereon," writes the commission to Mr. Carson.

"Section 6040, Oregon laws, being section 11 of chapter 279, laws of 1911, commonly known as the public utility act, provides that:

"Every public utility shall keep and render to the commission in the manner and form prescribed by the commission uniform accounts of all business transacted. All forms of accounts which may be prescribed by the commission shall conform as nearly as practicable to similar forms prescribed by federal authority. Every public utility engaged directly or indirectly in any other business than that of the transportation of persons or property by street railroads or the production, transmission or furnishing of heat, light, water or power, or the conveyance of telephone or telegraph messages shall, if required by the commission, keep and render separately to the commission in like manner and form the accounts of all such other business, in which case all the provisions of this act shall apply with like force and effect to the books, accounts, papers and records of such other business."

Forms Are Prescribed
"Section 6041, Oregon laws, further provides that:

"The commission shall prescribe the forms of all books, accounts, papers and records required to be kept, and every public utility is required to keep and render to the commission in like manner and form the accounts of all such other business, in which case all the provisions of this act shall apply with like force and effect to the books, accounts, papers and records of such other business."

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EDITORIAL

For years there has been a certain prudent element that has sought to raise the tuition rates for Willamette university.

"Charge a higher rate, and let the students pay it," is the argument. "It costs a lot more than the university receives; why not have them pay?"

But it is an outstanding fact that the rates have not been raised; they still stand at the starvation price of only \$60 a year. One of the Willamette students at a chapel talk Thursday said that he had thought of going back to Princeton—but \$300 was necessary for tuition alone. That rate is not far from the average charge of the big universities, east, west, everywhere.

And it is history that no other college in America has a larger per capita proportion of big, outstanding names, than Willamette; and most of them worked their way through, and most of them would have been utterly lost to any and all college training had they tried to pay the actual "cost" of their own tuition.

HERRIN RIOT IS DESCRIBED BY WITNESSES

Gruesome Murders Narrated Before Tense Audience in Courtroom—One Rope is Used for Six Men.

PRISONERS DRIVEN TO TOWN CEMETERY

Chief of Police Watches Procession from Walk, Then Goes Home

MARION, Ill., Dec. 14.—The march of several hundred armed men, driving before them through the streets of Herrin, six blood-stained prisoners and the later finding of twenty bodies was described to the jury by several witnesses today at the trial of five men in connection with the riot.

One Rope Used

Before a tense audience which packed the somber, dimly lighted courtroom to the doors, witnesses for the state pointed out three of the defendants as men they had seen with weapons in their hands the morning of the tragedy.

March Described

Marshall Lentz the first testified to take the stand witnessed to seeing a crowd of several hundred men passing before his house in Herrin early in the morning of June 22, the day of the killings. He said that "about six prisoners with the crowd was shouting and singing and looked like a mob and bloody heads were being driven ahead."

What Did You See in the Woods?

"Fourteen men who had been shot down and some armed men, and added that he had then gone toward the city cemetery.

Shot One Down

George Harrison, who has a farm at Herrin near the scene of the murders, told of seeing a group of about 25 men with a single prisoner near his farm. "They started south with the prisoner and shot him down when he ran," he said.

Members Pointed Out

According to the witness, three other men who he was unable to identify came up to his barn and told him they wanted to go through the lot "to head off some men who had got loose."

MORE PLANES PLAN SEARCH FOR AVIATORS

Mystery of 2 Officers Who Dropped Out of Sight Remains Unsolved

SAN DIEGO, Cal., Dec. 14.—Seventeen de Havilland airplanes manned by the pick of the army's aerial forestry patrol fliers and the most skilled cross-country pilots in the air squadron of the Pacific battle fleet, will take wing from North Island early tomorrow to assist in the search for Colonel Francis C. Marshall and Lieutenant Charles L. Webber, who dropped out of sight last Thursday after leaving Rockwell field here for Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

TRAIN DEATH LIST NOW 18

9 More Victims of Passenger Collision Die After Reaching Hospital

HOUSTON, Tex., Dec. 14.—While the death list in Wednesday's rail tragedy at Humble increased to 18 today a board of inquiry sitting at Humble developed some startling testimony, according to railroad officials.

Witnesses before that body testified that the throttle of the switch engine sideswiped at 10 p.m. Wednesday by a Houston East and West Texas passenger train No. 25, was found open after the crash. Other witnesses said that the locomotive was moving slowly away from the main line intersection at the moment of impact.

Crews Blameless

J. H. Smith, aged watchman in charge of the switch engine, could not be found to testify after the accident, after he was taken to a hospital in Houston. His injuries were slight and he left the hospital soon afterward. He is being sought by the sheriff's office to give his testimony.

While the death list increased to 18, the list of injured decreased to 14. Of these, little hope is held out for three.

Of the dead, nine succumbed after being brought to Houston hospitals for treatment.

SILVERTON HAS DIPHTHERIA SCARE

Schools Not Likely to Close As Reported, Says Superintendent

SILVERTON, Ore., Dec. 14.—(Special to The Statesman)—The rumor has become current in Silverton that the city school will be closed due to the diphtheria epidemic which is said to be gaining a foothold here.

WOULD REPEAL NEW OREGON LAW

County Clerks Like Old System of Vote Counting at Polls Close

PORTLAND, Dec. 14.—Repeal of the Oregon law which provides for double county boards at elections was proposed in a resolution adopted at the meeting of the county clerks' association of Oregon. Delegates expressed the opinion that the new system whereby one board counts the votes during election day, does away with secrecy and suggested that the state return to the old plan of starting the count after the polls close.

The clerks disapproved the present law permitting electors to change their registration on election day. A suggestion that no change in registration may be made later than the last day of the registration period, which is 3 days preceding the election, carried.

HARVEY RETURNING

LONDON, Dec. 14.—(By The Associated Press.)—The American ambassador, Colonel George Harvey is returning to the United States almost immediately for a short visit. The reason ascribed for his visit is his anxiety about his wife's health which has been unsatisfactory of late and the ambassador desires to give her a much needed rest.

KELLER SAYS IMPEACHMENT IS BIG JOKE

Daugherty Accuser Causes Tumult in Committee Room When He Calls Case "Comic Opera."

COURSE DECLARED GRANDSTAND PLAY

Hearings to Go on — May Subpoena Representative from Minnesota

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Representative Keller of Minnesota, refused late today to participate further in the hearings before the house judiciary committee on the impeachment charges brought by him against Attorney General Daugherty. Characterizing the hearings as "comic opera performances," he declared he would be untrue to his responsibility as a member of the house if he assisted further in a "barefaced attempt to whitewash Harry M. Daugherty."

Immediately after he announced his withdrawal, the committee in open session and without leaving its place voted to go on with the hearings, to subpoena Mr. Keller as a witness, put him under oath and question him as to the basis for his charges of high crimes and misdemeanors against the attorney general.

PRIZES AWARDED IN COUNTY CORN SHOW AT LOCAL CHAMBER

William Blake, a farmer living north of town on route 8, won the blue ribbon for the best single ear of corn in the Salem Corn Show.

There is an art in growing prize corn, and even a greater art in recognizing it after it is grown, and Farmer Blake has the art down fine.

Show Thing of Beauty
The corn show is a thing of beauty. It is not exactly a riotous beauty, like orchids or "living pictures" of abbreviated daisies, or canary birds or squirrels or babies. An ear of corn is almost as dead in its behavior as a lump of lead or a defunct politician. It does not caper or sing, or make eyes, or flutter alluringly in the breeze. It stays put like a coat of paint. It offers no surprises after it is once placed.

But it has the beauty of utility and of prosperity and of vast value. The yellow corn crop of one of the big Mississippi valley states is worth more every year than all the gold in the world that same year. Where corn prospers, there are comfortable homes, churches, schools, pianos, real automobiles, good roads, happy children, well-dressed women and whistling and singing men.

The subsidiary or accompanying beauties of good corn crops are so many and so wonderful, that a good corn show might be almost the sum of all good things.

INDEPENDENCE EXHIBIT GOOD

Over in Independence was held a wonderful corn show a month ago. They had more than 300 exhibitors, and it was a genuine delight to see. They were invited to take part in the Salem show and they sent over some delightful exhibits.

They won some good prizes yesterday including four firsts, two seconds, one third, two sweepstakes, and one second group prize, or 10 out of 32 awards. They were mighty welcome, and from the showings made from

ASTORIA PEOPLE ARE EATING WELL

National Guard Cooks Dish—Abundance of Food When Needed
The people of Astoria who have been deprived of means of furnishing their own meals by the fire of last Friday are being well provided for by the national guard camps there, according to information received from Major Sher, supply officer, by Adjutant General George A. White.

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BIG TIMBER DEAL MADE

Eastern & Western Lumber Company Makes Buy of Billion Feet

The Eastern & Western Lumber company of Portland closed a deal this week, purchasing about one billion feet of timber in the Cascade range in Marion and Clackamas counties just north of the Silver Falls Timber company holdings.

This tract of timber is known as the Foster Timber company of Wilwaukie, Wis., tract. The timber is located in township 7 south, range 3 east on the headwaters of the Mollala river.

To Operate in 1923

Probabilities are that this company will start operations some time next year. At present it is unable to ascertain whether the company will bring the logs to

OFFICIALS SUDDENLY LAND

As Webb entered the warden's office he faced Governor Ritner, all the members of the state parole board, warden J. W. Lewis and other prison officials.

Webb Unable to Speak

Webb's lips and the muscles of his face quivered. He tried to speak. He couldn't. Instead, tears dropped appeared upon his cheeks. And then he found words, but with difficulty.

Webb's Lips and Muscles Quivered

"Don't try to say anything, Jess," interrupted Don Upjohn, the governor's secretary and a member of the parole board. "Let your life say it." "My life shall say it," replied Webb. "My life is going to be a vindication of all that you

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