

The Oregon Statesman

SEVENTY-FIFTH YEAR

SALEM, OREGON, FRIDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 11, 1925

PRICE FIVE CENTS

PINNED IN FLAMES MOFFITT TO RECOVER

Ex-Salem Police Chief Hit While Chasing Speeding Automobile

CYCLE STRUCK BY TRAIN

Too Late to Stop, Swings Down Track, Carried 75 Feet by Engine, Tossed Aside, Is Resting Well

First details of the accident in which Verdon Moffitt, former Salem chief of police, was seriously injured near Whittier, Cal., one week ago today, reached here yesterday in the form of a graphic letter from his wife, giving full details of the crash.

Traveling 50 miles an hour in a motorcycle chase after a speeding automobile, Moffitt found he could not clear an approaching Santa Fe train. He swerved, following the track. Motorcycle and man were picked up by the locomotive, carried 75 feet and cast aside, the cycle bursting into flames.

He will recover and be unmarked. One hundred stitches were taken, a night and day nurse are in attendance, but no serious alarm is felt for him. He is in Memorial hospital, Whittier, Cal. Extracts from the letter, addressed to his mother, Mrs. A. T. Moffitt, 806 High street, follows:

"Verden didn't want you to know about it at all, and I was going to wire you as soon as the X-ray pictures were taken to see if he had a concussion or any bones broken. He will get well and will not be an invalid or disfigured in any way.

"Isn't that a miracle? His upper lip was burst and cut open, two front teeth are gone and he has a hole in his tongue, but none of these injuries are serious, only painful, and the surgeon did such wonderful work that the scars will not be noticeable. It took more than 100 stitches.

"He was on his way home from work when he saw a speeding car and took after it. He had the motor siren wide open and was going about 50 miles an hour and was struck by a Santa Fe passenger train. He didn't see the train until too late, but he tried to stop and swerved his motor in the same direction the train was going, the engine carrying him on the motorcycle about 75 feet and then flung them away.

"That was all that saved his life, for had he hit the engine straight on he would have been killed instantly. As it is, it is a wonder he wasn't ground beneath the wheels. So you see, only the Divine Hand of the Lord saved him.

"Verden's motor caught fire and one foot was badly burned; also other burns on the body, but none of the burns are serious. His body is covered with lacerations and bad bruises, but they will all heal and leave no scars.

"As far as they know he isn't hurt internally, but of course he has had a bad shock and is awfully sore and in pain. All this will leave as the days go by.

"The head received the worst hurts, but I'm so thankful that they will heal alright. The scalp was laid open from the eyebrows to the crown of his head in several places, but it didn't hurt the skull or brain. He has a wonderful doctor and a special day and night nurse with him all the time. All expense will be taken care of by the county and his pay goes on just the same. There is nothing to worry about.

"He will not be able to go to work for several weeks, so he has lots of time to rest and get well. Verden says not to worry about him for he is getting along nicely. He will be in the hospital about two weeks if all goes well—and there is no reason why it shouldn't for he is healthy and his wounds are not the kind to cause serious trouble. (Signed) NELLIE."

LELAND CARL RESTING HUBBARD YOUTH REPORTED TO BE DOING WELL

Leland Carl, who was seriously injured Wednesday morning, was reported resting comfortably last evening. He was injured in an automobile crash Wednesday morning about 10 o'clock, when the roadster he was driving left the road, turned completely over in the ditch and then righted itself. The accident happened close to Horsehoe park.

LAUNDRY BOILER BURSTS

FORT COLLINS, Dec. 10.—(By Associated Press.)—One man was killed and four other persons injured seriously in a boiler explosion that wrecked the Lincoln Wash laundry here late today.

WRAP PACKAGES WELL POSTOFFICE SENDS CHRISTMAS MAILING RULES

Here are the rules for wrapping Christmas packages for mailing as sent out by United States Postoffice Department:

"Fragile articles of all kinds need the protection of a box or other outside container in addition to paper used for cushioning.

"When several loose articles are to be wrapped in a single package they should be first tied together to prevent any 'play' or shifting.

"Paper-wrapped packages are subject to the following common-sense rules:

"1. Strong, tough paper should be used—the kind you cannot easily punch a hole through with your finger.

"2. Pliable paper should be used—the kind that does not crack when it is folded.

"3. New paper is better than used.

"4. When used paper is employed it must be free from holes, cracks and tears.

"5. The heavier the package and the greater the distance it is to travel, the thicker the paper should be or the greater the number of sheets to be used, and always strong, tough and pliable sheets.

"6. Use two sheets, unless you are sure one is strong enough.

"The twine used in tying should also be strong and should be drawn tight, because much handling induces stretching.

"The twine should be in one piece and each crossing should be knotted to prevent slipping. Long narrow packages should have several such crossings. Paper tape is permissible on parcel post packages only under certain conditions. Ask your postmaster.

"Just as important as wrapping and tying is marking. Never use lead pencil. Use waterproof crayon, ink or stencil, and mark plainly.

"Always address to street and number. Spell out the State. Precede return address with the word 'From.'"

HOUSE INSURGENTS ARE TAKEN FROM POSITIONS

ALL BUT ONE ARE STRIPPED OF COMMITTEE RANK

Representative Cooper of Wisconsin is retained on House List

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—(By Associated Press.)—House republican insurgents, with one exception, were swept from the more important standing committees today by the republican committee on committees.

Representative Cooper of Wisconsin, although removed from his ranking position on the foreign affairs committee, was retained on its roll at the bottom of the republican list of members.

Despite the fact that he had been the candidate for speaker of the insurgent group, the republican leaders showed leniency in his case, it was explained, because of his long service in the house of which he is in this respect the "dean."

Representatives Lampert and Nelson of Wisconsin, the only members of the insurgent group who held chairmanships, were ejected from these offices. Representative Vestal of Indiana being named to succeed Mr. Lampert as head of the patents committee and Representative Vincent of Michigan being given Mr. Nelson's place on the elections committee.

Other members of the group affected by the committee assignments made today included Representatives Browne, Wisconsin, removed from the foreign affairs committee; Voigt, Wisconsin, and Sinclair, North Dakota, taken from agricultural committee; Peavey, removed from the rivers and harbors committee and Schneider from the post office committee.

Representatives Nelson and Frear of Wisconsin were ejected from the rules and ways and means committee respectively when these were organized some time ago.

Representative Tilson of Connecticut, the republican floor leader, said the committee on committees by its action today was carrying out the mandate of the republican caucus of last spring to remove supporters of the presidential candidacy of the late Robert M. La Follette from republican places on committees charged with responsibility of carrying out the party's program.

MURRAY IS DENIED WRIT FOR APPEAL

Circuit Judge Percy R. Kelly Refuses to Sign Order of Probable Cause

ONE MORE HOPE REMAINS

Case Will Probably Be Placed Before Supreme Court Today In Attempt to Forestall Hanging

Tom Murray, 22 year old Oregon desperado, had another hope for a stay of execution blasted yesterday when Circuit Judge Percy R. Kelly refused to sign a certificate of probable cause in the case, closing the avenue of an appeal to the supreme court. But one more remains—bringing the case directly to the attention of the supreme court itself. If Justice T. A. McBride also refuses to sign a certificate, Murray must hang on Friday, December 18, as ordered by the court when he was sentenced to death on October 19 for the murder of James Sweeney, a prison guard killed during the break on the evening of August 12.

In refusing to sign the writ of probable cause necessary to an appeal the supreme court, Judge Kelly held that the circuit court was not in error and that the records of the trial were correct. Murray was represented by Judge Will R. King, and John Carson, district attorney and Allen Carson, assistant district attorney, representing the state.

The hearing was held in Albany where Judge Kelly is holding court, as it was impossible for him to come to the Salem courtroom.

It was intimated yesterday that Judge King would seek to place the case before Justice McBride today in an attempt to secure a writ enabling him to appeal the case to the supreme court.

What action the supreme court will take is problematical. In some cases the writ has been issued, and in others, denied.

THUG VICTIM IS FOUND

BEAVERTON MAN IS FOUND UNCONSCIOUS ON ROAD

PORTLAND, Or., Dec. 10.—(By Associated Press.)—A man whom police believe to be Daniel Von Broon, of Beaverton, was taken tonight to a hospital here after he was found lying unconscious by the side of the Canyon Road just inside the city limits, with lacerations on his head that indicated he had been the victim of foul play. He was still unconscious at a late hour tonight.

OPPOSITION IS FOUGHT IN TAX SLICE MEASURE

BILL AGAIN STEERED SAFELY THROUGH CHOPPY SEA

Non-Partisan Origin Does Much to Secure Friends in De- bate in House

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—(By Associated Press.)—Opposition to provisions of the tax reduction bill developed again today during another five hours of debate on the measure in the house but its friends in both parties fought off the scattering attacks.

Members of the ways and means committee, which drafted the bill so as to slash federal taxes by \$325,000,000 next year, again steered it through the day's discussion with words of approval.

Pointing to the non-partisan manner in which it was framed, various committee members urged its approval, although disagreeing personally with some of its provisions.

The reductions in the maximum surtax and inheritance tax rates were the targets of attack by Representative Frear, republican, Wisconsin, and La Guardia, socialist, New York, both of whom appealed to the democrats for support to increase these schedules.

Mr. La Guardia declared he would vote against the measure unless it was amended along these lines. Mr. Frear, who was removed from the ways and means committee by the republicans last spring as an insurgent, confined his remarks to a review of the bill's provisions, some of which he commended.

Commenting on the non-partisan feature, Representative Bacharach of New Jersey, a republican member of the committee, declared taxation "is a matter too vital to the welfare of the government people to be considered from a partisan standpoint, rather than from a business standpoint."

Representative Oldfield of Arkansas, a democratic committee-

(Continued on page 4.)

ARMY PLANS CHRISTMAS TREE IN ARMOY TO HAVE PRESENTS FOR ALL

In keeping with the yearly custom, the local Salvation Army will hold its Christmas tree at the Salem armory Thursday evening, December 24. The tree is for the children of poor families of the city.

Mayor J. B. Giesy will preside for the evening. Dr. B. F. Pound, chairman of the local Salvation Army advisory board, will also be present. An elaborate program is being planned. There will be candy, fruit and nuts for all, and each child will receive a gift.

Applications are being received daily at Army headquarters for Christmas baskets. Last year the local Army distributed approximately 80 baskets. Members of the organization are endeavoring to beat the record this year.

THE CHILDREN'S HOUR



PITFALLS OF LEAGUE LISTED BY DELEGATE

Viscount Cecil, Britain's Le- giate to League of Nations, Gives Views

JEALOUSY IS OBSTACLE

Historic Suspicions and Internal Friction of Governmental Ma- chines Must Be Over- come at Once

GENEVA, Dec. 10.—(By Associated Press.)—Viscount Cecil of Chelwood, Great Britain's representative on the league of nations disarmament council, gave an interview to The Associated Press tonight, summarizing the pitfalls on the road to a solution of the disarmament problem and of the forces which justify hope that the great issue will be grappled with successfully.

"Undoubtedly the chief obstacle to disarmament, he said, is the want of security, due to historic suspicions and jealousies of nations and the consequence chauvinistic forms of nationalism. Perhaps the chief merit of our recent agreements has been the diminution they have brought among some of the most important of European nations of this attitude of suspicion.

"Again, the growing strength and prestige of the league of nations is an important element toward security. The smoothness and rapidity with which the Green-Bulgarian dispute was adjusted, shows a remarkable growth of international good will."

When asked to define the domestic difficulties in the way of disarmament, Lord Cecil declared that next to international suspicion as an obstacle to disarmament, he would put internal friction of the various government machines. He said the idea of disarmament is necessarily strange and unattractive to military and civil functionaries who have traditions of their own older than international relations.

"They still think it more important to keep their powder dry than to trust to God," Lord Cecil said.

He then emphasized the immense practical difficulties in the way of land and air disarmament and declared the technical problems of naval disarmament were comparatively simple, those of the army matters being much more complicated.

"Even assuming that all nationalities were equally brave—a very large assumption—it remains true that in a modern army guns,

(Continued on page 4.)

OLD COMPANY M HISTORY TOLD IN GRAPHIC STATESMAN SKETCH

"Company Will Arrive in Salem From Camp Withycombe at Clackamas Saturday," Issue of October 18

"Salem's Own Company M. From time to time, word reaches us that M Company, of Salem, is well, happy, contented and rounding rapidly into shape; that the men—the boys who have spent their entire lives in our city—are working hard to reach that point of military efficiency necessary to be attained before they will consider themselves fit to fill the part to which they will be assigned in the European conflict."

This extract from The Statesman's leading editorial of October 4, 1917, is reprinted here apropos of the annual reunion of Salem's own Company M, at the Armory tonight, marking the anniversary of their departure overseas. Dramatic news pictures of their training as drawn in old issue of this paper follow:

"The boys are now doing guard duty in eastern Oregon, with headquarters at The Dalles, and say that they are well fed; in fact, that they could ask for nothing more."

RETURN OF SEIZED ALIEN PROPERTY ASKED IN BILL

MEASURE PREPARED FOR IN- TRODUCTION IN CONGRESS

Reimbursement for Germans and Austrians for Patent Rights Is Asked

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—(By Associated Press.)—Comprehensive plans for early return of seized German and Austrian property to its owners in a way assuring prompt payment of private American war claims have been drafted for early submission to congress by the administration.

Secretary Mellon today made public a program embodying a bond issue of \$250,000,000 which with seized funds held by the alien property custodian; would take care of the American claims against the central powers and enable the government to dispose almost wholly of the war time office of custodian.

Within a few hours after the treasury announcement was made Chairman Borah of the senate foreign relations committee introduced a bill in the senate which would accomplish the same purpose insofar as a return of the property was concerned, but made no mention of the American claims.

The Borah bill and the administration plan both carried provision for the granting of compensation to German owners for the use of the ships, radio stations, patents, etc.

The American and German rights with respect to the seized property came up also in the supreme court during the day where the chemical foundation case was being argued. The case was before the court on the government's appeal in a contest of the sale by the alien property custodian of German dye formula and trademarks.

Mr. Mellon made public his program for cleaning up the property and claims question in a formal statement in which he insisted it was the historical policy of this government to recognize the property rights of individuals even though this nation was at war with their government when the property was taken.

The plan he said, would add no new burden to the treasury, although it would necessitate a waiver by the treasury of the reimbursement now under way for expenditures incident to the occupation of the Rhine by American officers and the direct transfer of the annual reparations payments of 4,000,000 gold marks to other proposed securities.

LING TROOPS DEFEATED

SEVERE SETBACK GIVEN TO GOVERNMENT'S SOLDIERS

TOKYO, Dec. 11.—(By Associated Press.)—A dispatch to the foreign office from Tientsin says the forces of General Li Ching Ling, civil governor of Chihli province, have suffered a severe defeat. Dispatches from Peking today said the army of the Kuomintang, followers of General Yen Hsu-Yang and General Yueh Wei-Chun of Honan, and that of General Li Ching-Ling were facing each other near Tientsin. Li is a supporter of Marshal Chang-Tso-Lin of Manchuria.

TIGER FLOWERS WINS

BOSTON, Dec. 10.—(By Associated Press.)—Tiger Flowers of Atlanta, Ga., won a judges' decision over Frank Moody of Wales in their 10-round bout here tonight, outpointing his rival in every round and knocking him through the ropes in the second round.

SCOTTS MILLS ELECTS

City election at cotta Mills resulted in naming the following officials:
Mayor, J. O. Dixon.
Treasurer, A. L. Braugher.
Recorder, C. A. Kent.
Councilmen, E. W. Coulson, N. Schmalz, Jr., and Albert Rich.

61 MEN KILLED IN MINE BLAST

Gas Explosion in Birming- ham Coal Shafts Takes Heavy Toll of Lives; Rescue Workers Still Unable to Enter Tunnels

ALL HOPE IS GIVEN UP

Presence of Deadly Gases Preclude Any Possibility That Miners May Escape Death, Workers Say

IRMINGHAM, Ala., Dec. 10.—(By Associated Press.)—Sixty-one coal miners lost their lives today when a gas explosion occurred in the workings of Overton Mine No. 2, of the Alabama Fuel and Iron company in the Cahaba fields out of Birmingham. Fifteen men escaped injury and five are in a hospital suffering from serious injuries.

The explosion took place a short time after the day shift had started work at 8 o'clock. According to the mine superintendent 108 men checked in. At the time of the accident, 27 were beyond the range of the explosion. Of the 61 in the mine at the time of the blast 15 came forth unscathed and five were injured. The remainder are either known to be dead in the improvised morgue in the bath house or are still on lower levels. Most of the lives were lost on the seventh level.

Most of the bodies recovered have been taken from the sixth level.

Rescue workers who have returned to the surface, many of them exhausted and struggling for breath, declare they now no longer any man still in the workings. Wilford Powell and Charles Edith, members of one of the rescue squads, returned to the mine mouth early tonight topping over upon reaching fresh air. Hot coffee and oxygen revived them and they pleaded for another chance to attempt rescue work. Although the ventilating equipment of the Overton mine has not been damaged by the explosion, the mine still contains a great volume of gas.

Officials of the company and United States mine inspectors announced tonight that rescue work would be continued until all bodies are recovered and that all gas will be drawn from the shafts before any attempt is made to resume operations.

LIQUOR PLANT IS MINED

OFFICIALS DISCOVER 1,000 EX- TRA CASES ON VESSEL

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 10.—(By Associated Press.)—Customs officials in charge of the unloading of the suspected rum runner Coal Harbor, after an unofficial re-check of the ship's cargo, discovered today that approximately 1,000 cases of liquor in excess of the amount listed in the vessel's manifest, was on board. The manifest of the Coal Harbor, seized outside the Golden Gate last January, called for 2,959 cases of liquor, but as the unloading operations neared completion, customs officials noticed the extra cargo. The unloading of the seized liquor will be completed tomorrow when an official check will be made.

SMITH FUNERAL SET

BERKELEY, Cal., Dec. 10.—Funeral services will be held at St. Michael's Lutheran church here tomorrow for Charles A. Smith, president of the Coos Bay Lumber company and pioneer lumberman of the west, who died at his home here yesterday.

COMPROMISE BILL SIGNED

OLYMPIA, Wash., Dec. 10.—(AP.)—Governor Hartley today signed a compromise bill on reclamation activities.

HONESTY "REWARDED"

MAN RETURNS CHECK FOR \$1462, GIVEN 5 CENTS

SEATTLE, Dec. 10.—(By Associated Press.)—Finding a check for \$1,462 while looking for work, Charles A. Harris today returned it to F. J. Gleason to whom it was payable. Gleason gave Harris five cents—the amount he had spent in telephoning to determine the ownership of the check.