

## 8 POISONED BY FRIEND; FACTS TOLD FREELY

### Ninth Victim Murdered With Revolver, James Baker Says on Arrest

### Trail of Death Extends to Many Parts of Globe; Details Bared

DETROIT, Feb. 20.—(AP)—Confessing he had killed eight men with a poison and a ninth with a revolver, James Baker, 25, was being held here tonight for New York police who have sought him for more than a year.

Baker was arrested last night on a farm near Farmington, a suburb. He had lived there for nearly a year. Yesterday informers tipped Detroit police they believed Baker was a fugitive. His arrest followed at headquarters here talked freely, almost boastfully of his exploits.

The list of Baker's victims as assembled from his confession shows a trail of death extending from Bombay, India, to Hamburg, Germany.

**Watchman's Death Blamed on Baker**

Specifically, Baker is wanted in connection with the poisoning in New York December 28, 1928, of Henry S. Gaw, a night watchman at the Guggenheim laboratory where he was employed. The description furnished Detroit authorities by New York police is said to tally with Baker's appearance even to some peculiar tattoo marks on his right forearm.

Baker's confession was received almost incredulously by authorities. He calmly informed them he poisoned his victims because he wanted to witness the effects of poisons and because deaths of human beings gave him "a funny sort of mental satisfaction."

"I was always interested in poisons and usually carried some around with me," Baker said. "In 1924, I was in Houston, Texas. I happened into a saloon's restaurant and sat down beside a man. He had a cup of coffee in front of him. While he was looking away, I had a sudden impulse to put some poison in his coffee. He died almost at once. I learned afterward that his name was Honycutt."

Houston authorities have been unable to find a report of the death of a man by that name, it was learned here today.

It was after this first experience, Baker said, that he became subject to unexpected impulses to poison other persons. "No one in particular, but just anyone who happened to be near me."

The impulse moved him in Hamburg in 1926, and he said he poisoned a man there. Again in 1927, he said he poisoned a Hindu in Bombay, India, while during the spring of 1928, he killed a man by poison at Hilo, a small seaport town on Panay island.

## RELIGIOUS SESSION WILL START TODAY

MILL CITY, Ore., Feb. 20.—Plans are practically completed for the Christian Endeavor convention of the Willamette district which convenes in this city Friday, February 21. Jose Farinas of Albany is president of the union and will preside during the meetings. Lloyd Halverson, also of Albany, is sing leader. The Rev. Mortimer M. Stocker will be the principal speaker and will give an address Friday evening, taking as his text "Carry On."

Ross Guiley will also take a prominent part in all the sessions. At the Saturday evening meeting the election of officers will take place and the place in which the next convention will be held will be decided. The officers will be installed Sunday afternoon by James C. Henderson, state president of the society.

The convention will close with the 4 o'clock session Friday afternoon. Approximately 75 delegates are expected to be in attendance.

## Phi Beta Kappa Chapter Requested By Willamette

Formal petitions for the formation of a chapter of Phi Beta Kappa at Willamette university will be mailed within the next two or three weeks, according to President Carl G. Doney who is very desirous that this nationally noted scholarship fraternity may be granted a charter for the university here.

In the western division of Phi Beta Kappa there are 13 chapters, five-thirds of whom must first approve Willamette university's application. The matter is then laid before the special committee on new charters of the national organization. When the regional chapters and the national committee have approved the application, the matter is brought before the triennial convention of the national order. Approval of the national order is then secured, that body which convenes next in

## Secret Societies Are Investigated By School's Head

### Organizations Found Thriving in Salem High in Defiance of State Law and Signatures on Pledges; Action is Delayed

**MEMBERS** of secret societies at the senior high school had better watch out. For Principal Fred Wolf knows full well that these secret societies are flourishing among Salem high school students, he said yesterday in issuing a statement in answer to a query on what he's going to do about the matter.

Wolf said, in substance, that he will meet the students half way on the proposition, and that so long as secret societies do not cross the path of high school work, and do not interfere with school affairs, he will take no steps to drown them out. But when these secret groups interfere with school work, then is he ready to take from the members all credit earned this year.

The principal has now in his possession names of about 80 high school students whom he knows to be affiliated with these societies, which several years ago were supposed to have been wiped out of all high schools in the state through legal enactment. He estimates the names he has represent a third or fourth of the entire membership in the school, but says they are more than a sufficient number to clean societies from the school.

## SCHOOL OFFICIALS PLAN ON SURVEYS

### R. W. Tavenner Takes Trip To California for Visit in Institutions There

R. W. Tavenner, secondary supervisor in the Salem school, left yesterday for California, where he will make a survey of senior and junior high schools in the larger places as far south as Fresno.

While Tavenner is in California making a survey of tendencies and trends in the schools of that state, Fred Wolf, principal of the high school here, is making a survey of some 250 high schools about the state of Salem to determine much the same thing. Wolf made a survey of these 250 schools three years ago for the Southwestern Idaho Teachers' association, and now he is going over the same ground to see what changes have been made in the three years. His original survey about the state of Salem to determine whether or not these schools have adopted newer educational trends because of proximity with schools which have. Results of these questionnaires, together with a comparison with the original one, will be compiled by Wolf and made available to persons interested.

Wolf also said a different questionnaire to about 50 other schools located near some of the original ones to see whether or not these schools have adopted newer educational trends because of proximity with schools which have. Results of these questionnaires, together with a comparison with the original one, will be compiled by Wolf and made available to persons interested.

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## MAYOR LIVESLEY'S VIEWS ARE OPPOSED

### W. C. T. U. of Woodburn Adopts Resolution Condemning Stand

Protest against Mayor T. A. Livesley's views on prohibition has now been carried beyond the confines of Salem as evidenced by a resolution adopted this week by the Woodburn W. C. T. U.

"We feel greatly grieved that as prominent a business man as Mr. Livesley should make the statement that he did concerning the people being tired of prohibition," declares the W. C. T. U. in a written resolution sent to the press. "We hereby go on record as opposing any attempt to re-store the liquor traffic in any way."

The resolution continues: "We as an organization and as citizens are interested in the general welfare of our people. Prohibition speaks for itself in regard to business, homes and money."

The resolutions are signed by Mrs. A. H. Dean, president of the W. C. T. U., as well as by Laura Rice, Mrs. J. R. Landon and Nellie Muir.

**TATE CONFIRMED**  
WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—(AP)—The senate today confirmed the nomination of Hugh M. Tate of Knoxville, Tenn., to be a member of the interstate commerce commission.

## Romeo Goulet Is In Race For Job In Legislature

The first candidate to declare his intention of entering the race for membership in the lower house of the state legislature is Romeo Goulet, who Thursday declared that he would definitely be a candidate for re-election. Goulet has not filed as yet but expects to make his official declaration within the next few weeks.

At the airport the four planes swept from a space between two hangars and deposited almost one atop the other in a corner of the area, against a fence. There was confined to wings and struts, aviators said.

## BRITISH HELD TO BLAME BY YANK LEADER

### Written Already Fixing Responsibility for Con-fab's Failure

### Strong Navy With Extensive Cruising Radius is Said Needed by U. S.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—(AP) Chairman Britten of the house naval affairs committee last night said that if the London arms conference fails, "and it probably will, it will be the third one that has been a fizzle because of British obstinacy."

"There must be no diplomatic victory at the expense of our naval defense," he said in an address before the Illinois Manufacturers' association. "There must be no agreement that does not insure actual naval fighting parity with England, ton for ton, and each nation to build the kind of cruisers it deems suited for its position in domestic and world peace."

Describing as "ridiculous" the suggestion "that we build 77,000 tons of small gun cruisers at a cost of \$130,000,000, merely to meet the British expansion proposal," Britten appealed for "limitation, not expansion."

Instability of Government Cited  
If the British admiralty are the friends they pretend to be," he continued, "let them make a friendly gesture aimed at world peace, forget that Britannia rules the waves and give thought to the world's overburdened taxpayers."

The adjournment of the conference for a week "due to the fact of the French government's strong refusal to bring out that fact that we are dickering with a group of governments whose stability is most insecure and who may become politically bankrupt at a day's notice. This knowledge may be responsible for Ramsey MacDonnell's expansion and from parity to continued sea control."

"That great Yankee spirit, we talk so much about over here, seems to become an inferiority complex over there whenever our statesmen get up against a group of old world diplomats," he said after referring to "fifteen billion dollars worth of American merchandise which found its way into every seaport on earth last year."

**Declared Vital Radius**  
"To protect that commerce we require cruisers of the greatest steaming radius because we do not possess bases all over the world as England does," he added. "When war actually occurs, treaties are but scraps of paper and the rights of neutrals at sea are weighed almost wholly by the military power that enforces the respect of the warring nations."

"Today the law governing the use of the seas in time of war, is in a state of confusion."

## Oregon Briefs . . .

### Portland Wins 3-1

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 20.—(AP)—Portland clung to its leadership of the Pacific coast hockey league when it defeated the Seattle Eskimos 3 to 1 in one of the wildest games ever played here on the Coliseum ice.

**General White Honored**  
PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 20.—(AP)—Portland tonight paid tribute to Oregon's foremost citizen-soldier, whose military career began as a field artillery private in the Spanish American war and was recently topped by his promotion to Major-Generalship of the United States army.

**16 Stills Taken**  
PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 20.—(AP)—In the course of a determined attack upon manufacturers of illicit whisky, federal prohibition agents cooperating with state and county officers have participated in the seizure of 16 stills and the arrest of 23 operators since February 1, W. K. Newell, deputy administrator, announced today.

**Gale Sweeps Portland**  
PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 20.—(AP)—A southerly gale which reached a maximum velocity of 40 miles an hour in some parts of the city early today did extensive minor damage throughout the city. Plate glass windows were broken, four land-bound airplanes on the Swan Island airport were damaged, wires were downed, and sign boards leveled.

**At the airport** the four planes swept from a space between two hangars and deposited almost one atop the other in a corner of the area, against a fence. There was confined to wings and struts, aviators said.

**Missing Girl Found**  
EUGENE, Ore., Feb. 20.—(AP)—After a search of nearly two weeks in several counties, Florence Woodruff, 16-year-old grade school girl of Coquille, was taken into custody at Springfield today and will be returned to her home.

An uncle of the girl, C. Woodruff, 65, is in custody at Coquille. He was arrested at North Bend. It was alleged the uncle left with the girl, who left her home Sunday, February 9.

## Pittsburgh Strike Just Like War



Wartime measures were adopted by officials of the Green Taxi company in Pittsburgh to prevent further injuries to strikebreakers in vicious taxi war. The new drivers seem quite pleased at the novel safety headgear. Bricks, coal, etc., have already accounted for 185 injuries as the taxi war continues and one man who attacked strike breakers was shot and killed by a policeman Wednesday of this week.

## Terrific Storm Reported On Newfoundland's Coast

### Three Persons Killed and Hundreds of Thousands Dollars Worth of Damage Done by Fierce Gale Early in Week

ST. JOHN, N. F., Feb. 20.—(AP)—First word of a terrific storm gale that claimed three lives and caused hundreds of thousands of dollars damage in the fishing ports along the southwest coast of Newfoundland last Sunday reached here today.

The meager reports of extensive damage filtered in here today with little more than general realization of heavy tolls.

La Maline reported the loss of three lives. Burgeo, on the Burgeo Islands, one of New Foundland's most valuable fisheries and a rendezvous for artists, reported damage to shopping, dwellings, stores and fishing stages to the extent of \$100,000.

Bossoy is having a busy time in court here this week. Two cases involving cows having been tried before Justice in court and a third having been tried in circuit court before Judge Percy R. Kelly.

## COWS FEATURED IN ACTIONS IN COURT

### Sale of Milk Animals Proves Basis of Three Disagreements

The cows mentioned in all of the three cases were worthless according to the complaints. One would give but two quarts of milk a day and one of these was said to be six years of age although she was really 12. In justice court the buyers were upheld but

## Portland Hockey Club Retains League Leadership by Winning 3-1 Over Seattle Eskimos in Terrific Battle

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 20.—(AP)—Portland clung to its leadership of the Pacific coast hockey league when it defeated the Seattle Eskimos 3 to 1 in one of the wildest games ever played here on the Coliseum ice.

## Salem Store Is Forced to Close Doors This Week

Doors of the Salem Variety store on North Commercial street were closed late Wednesday afternoon and an assignment of the business made to the adjustment bureau of the Portland association of creditors. F. G. Brock, has owned the business for the past two and a half years, and according to Attorney E. M. Page who is handling the matter here, had enjoyed a good business until the past winter. Page stated that the store would probably be put up for sale by the Portland credit men. The inventory has not yet been completed.

## Mission-Play Is Described Here By Mr. Hendricks

The southern California Mission play was graphically described by R. J. Hendricks to members of the First Methodist church Thursday night at the regular monthly fellowship dinner. Mr. Hendricks made a thorough study of the play upon a recent trip to the south.

## Use Of Substitutes For Butter Argued At Meet

SILVERTON, Feb. 20.—Whether the hen comes before the egg or the egg before the hen seemed to be the bone of contention Wednesday night at one of the most enthusiastic chamber of commerce meetings ever held at Silverton. This question, of course, is figuratively speaking. The question was really whether the grocer should stop selling butter substitutes so that the farmer could not purchase it, or whether the farmer should refrain from buying it so that the grocer would stop handling it.

Both sides were agreed that the sale of butter substitute was a detriment to the dairy industry and that the dairy industry was very important to the Silverton community. The friendly feeling between the grocers and the farmers present was very noticeable throughout the discussion and the solution of the matter was finally suggested by the grocers when Roscoe Jenkins, local manager of MacMarr's store, made the motion that the chair appoint a committee to visit merchants and urge them to stop advertising oleomargarine.

## Gathering Sponsors Petitions

### Charter Provision Is Immediate Target for Group

### Hollywood Community Club Unanimous in Action

Contending that in its program to bring about municipal ownership in Salem the first step is to remove from the city charter the present unwieldy clause prescribing the method for purchase or condemnation of the utility, the Hollywood community club voted unanimously Thursday night to sponsor petitions calling for a vote on the repeal of clause six, section six, of the charter.

Members of the club stated that this much might be done at the May primaries, thus permitting procedure under the state law, which prescribes a less complicated method of authorizing purchase or condemnation, according to A. M. Church, who moved that the repeal measure be attempted.

A committee to supervise the preparation and circulation of the petitions was appointed by President P. M. Gregory, consisting of A. C. Burk, R. J. Strumho and M. C. Hubbs.

## Damage Action Is Pat Out of Court By Circuit Judge

Ed Hahn, laborer, lost his \$6,048 damage suit against Chester Miller when Judge Percy Kelly ruled a dismissal during Hahn's testimony before a jury in circuit court here Thursday. A slip of the tongue when Hahn was being questioned on the witness stand revealed that an insurance company was involved in the suit.

It was alleged by Hahn in bringing the case into court here that while he was walking across the highway near Jefferson a wire hanging from the rear of Miller's car became entangled with his legs and dragged him for some distance, injuring his back and scalp severely.

## Over 700 Persons on Hand At Special Event Staged By Elks Club

The largest gathering of men ever to attend any event in the Silverton community was present for the veterans' night program Thursday. There were more than 700 persons attending, including veterans of three wars and the Elks, hosts of the occasion.

In addition to hundreds of local veterans, the Dallas poet of the American Legion attended 50 strong, and there were delegations from Silverton, Independence, Stayton and other cities in the Willamette valley.

Following an address of welcome by Walter Keyes, past and alotted ruler of the Salem lodge of Elks, the following commanders of veterans' organizations were introduced and responded briefly:

H. P. Carnahan of Sedgewick Post No. 10, G. A. R.; Ludwig Michelson of the Hibbard Camp, United Spanish War veterans; Byron H. Conley of Marion Post No. 661, Veterans of Foreign Wars; A. C. "Biddy" Bishop of Capital Post No. 5, American Legion.

Twelve G. A. R. members were present, including three from Silverton. A pleasing program of entertainment was provided by the Booth theatrical company of Portland. Arrangements for the program had been made by a committee headed by Frank Cain.

## Salem Debaters Win 2 Contests Blanking Rivals

Salem high added further to its debate laurels last night when the local affirmative team, Fred Blatchford and Frank Childs, substitute, defeated the Independence negative 3 to 0. At Stayton the Salem negative, Norman Winslow and Doryce Ross, substitute, won 3 to 0 from Stayton.

## SHERIFF MURDERED

SIDNEY, Neb., Feb. 20.—(AP)—A maniac wounded Sheriff James Nelson, probably fatally, today.

## PHI BETA KAPPA CHAPTER REQUESTED BY WILLAMETTE

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