

Long-Time Head Of State Hospital Dr. Steiner Dies

Illness Fatal to Ex-Superintendent

Dr. R. Lee Steiner, 78, for 28 years superintendent of the Oregon state hospital and largely responsible for its development, died at his home, 537 S. High st., Saturday morning after a long illness.

At the request of Dr. Steiner private services will be held from the Clough-Barrick chapel Monday at 10:30 a. m. with the Rev. George Swift officiating. Entombment will be in Mt. Crest Abbey mausoleum. Friends are asked to omit flowers.

The nationally known doctor had been in failing health for a long time and acutely ill during the last week. Death came at 8:30 p. m. He resigned as hospital superintendent on July 1, 1947. Born in Ohio.

Dr. Steiner was born in Bluffton, Ohio, Sept. 23, 1869, the son of Gideon and Elizabeth (Hass) Steiner. His parents moved to Salem in 1886. His father entered the merchandising business and remained in that capacity until his death. He received his education in public schools while living in Ohio and was 17 when his family came to Salem.

He worked for a year as a drug clerk, and when only 18 entered the drug business himself at State and Commercial streets in the present location of the Pioneer Trust company. He entered Willamette university a short time later and received his doctor of medicine degree in 1897.

Practicing Physician
Following graduation Dr. Steiner practiced three years in Dallas and moved to Lakeview where he practiced another five years. While living at Lakeview he was elected a member of the state legislature. From 1903 to 1908 he worked for the United States reclamation service and in 1909 was appointed superintendent of the Oregon state hospital — a position he held almost continuously until 1937.

Surviving Dr. Steiner are his widow, Mrs. Belle G. Steiner of Salem; two daughters, Mrs. Daisy Fry of Salem and Mrs. Earl Flegel, Roseburg; a son, Dr. Milton Steiner of Portland; a sister, Mrs. Milton Meyers of Salem; seven grandchildren, Mrs. Marylee Snell of Salem, Anne Steiner and Lee Steiner, all of Portland, Earl Flegel, Jr., and Lee Flegel, both of Roseburg, and Dan Fry, Jr., of Salem; and two great grandchildren, Donna Snell and William Lee Snell, both of Salem. (Additional details on page 20)

Boy in Poison Case Gets Full Dinner, Care
BEND, Ore., Dec. 20 (AP)—Remorseful and solemn, 11-year-old Cecil Snyder, accused of poisoning his father, today ate the first meal that he can remember, and slept in a clean bed.

He was held in the Deschutes county jail on a first-degree murder charge, stemming from the death December 12 of his father, John V. Snyder, 59, a few hours after eating lunch of the state police said young Cecil readily confessed sprinkling lethal powder in his father's cheese sandwiches.

Meanwhile police investigation turned up corroboration for Cecil's story of a life of privation and cruelty at his farm home near here.

Cecil's mother died at his birth, nine older children had either left home or been sent to institutions, Cecil said he was always hungry and added that beatings were frequent.

Reed Fined \$100 On Pinball Charge; Appeal Planned
Ethan B. Reed, owner of Playmore Park tavern at Hubbard, who was convicted Thursday by a Marion county district court jury of illegal operation of a pinball machine, was fined \$100 Saturday.

District Judge Joseph Felton also ordered that the pinball machine involved be confiscated and destroyed. Reed was originally tried several weeks ago but the case was dismissed when a jury failed to agree.

He filed a notice of appeal to the Marion county circuit court Saturday from the lower court's conviction. Reed's appeal takes its place on the circuit court docket alongside two other recent appeals from district court convictions of illegal pinball machine operations in Marion county.

Animal Crackers
By WARREN GOODRICH



"My daughter and her child are with us for the holidays."

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Telegraph Employes Await Strike Call

Moscow Takes Note of 'Voice' Radio--Says Program Lies

No Pessimism In Soviet Over Big 4 Break
By Eddie Gilmore
MOSCOW, Dec. 20 (AP)—Despite the gloom on the west over the stalemate ending of the foreign ministers council session in London and over the prospects of future collaboration between the Soviet Union and her war-time big power allies, no such pessimistic sentiments are being advanced in Russia. (This dispatch was subject to censorship.)

No commentators have come forward with anything like the suggestion that the international situation is hopeless, or that there may be no more meetings of the council of foreign ministers. On the contrary, some commentators have intimated that the council of foreign ministers sessions are not at an end.

The Soviet press has taken this position concerning the foreign ministers breakdown in London: The United States caused the breakdown; the United States and other western powers went to London with decisions already made; the United States counted on a breakdown; Britain and France followed the American lead, and joined with the United States in trying to place the blame on Soviet Russia.

Further, the Soviet contends that (1) it wants a free and independent Germany; (2) the United States does not because that would interfere in the plans of "Wall Street" and imperialists and militarists; and (3) Russia, because of her role in the war, is entitled to full reparations from Germany.

Winter to Arrive Monday Morning
Salem residents can don red flannels and ear muffs tomorrow without fear of being scorned, for winter officially at 8:43 a. m. Monday.

The U. S. weather bureau at McNary field said that both Monday and Tuesday would be the shortest days of the year, the sun rising at 7:47 a. m. and setting at 4:29 p. m. each day. Rain was expected to greet the new season.

Council to Hear Sewer Rental Amendments
Amendments to proposed sewer service legislation are expected to appear in the Salem city council meeting 7:30 p. m. Monday at the city hall.

The measure, which is the first step in City Manager J. L. Franzen's \$1,445,000 sewer development and sewage disposal plan, was greeted by scattered opposition at the last city council session. Details of the amendments have not been disclosed by city officials, but it was expected one change would be in the nature of the proposed flat charge to householders.

The original bill called for a 50-cent minimum charge, based on water consumption up to 800 cubic feet, plus a three-cent per 100 cubic feet in excess of the 800 cubic feet.

One of the main objections to this plan was raised by the Salem Men's Garden club, whose spokesmen said such a charge would penalize householders who used a large amount of water during the summer to keep their yards in good condition. The water used for this purpose, it was pointed out, does not go through the sewer system.

Pope Assails Communists
VATICAN CITY, Dec. 20 (AP)—Pope Pius XII called for prayers for world order today and assailed, in words as biting as any he ever has used, those agitators who stir up man against man "in seditions and tumults."

Although he named no names, it was clear to all who read his Christmastic message to the hierarchy of the Catholic church that he had in mind the communists of France and Italy when he said:

"There are not lacking those who aggravate and fatten on the misery of the proletarian classes and hence obstruct those noble forces with which, with strict order and with justice, the rebuilding of fortunes now dispersed is attempted."

Pork Chops End Hunger Strike
ANGLETON, Texas, Dec. 20 (AP)—Darrington prison farm inmates, combining strong appetites for pork chops with a desire to receive Christmas packages, today called off a hunger strike that began late Wednesday.

Pork chops were piled on steam tables at noon and big pots of stew were steaming tonight as the approximately 250 strikers, who had refused eight straight meals, marched back to the mess hall to end the peaceful strike which they said began as a protest against lack of sufficient meat.

Elizabeth to Give Cash to Charity
LONDON, Dec. 20 (AP)—Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip have given to charity all the cash that was sent them as wedding presents. It was announced tonight.

The sum exceeds 13,000 pounds (about \$52,000). Several dozen charities, selected by the princess, shared in the distribution. Their activities are varied; many aid sick or impoverished children. In many instances money will go back to charities in regions from which it came.

LABOR RIOTS IN ITALY
ROME, Dec. 20 (AP)—Fifteen persons were injured in new outbreaks of fighting in Italy's labor disorders today.

Blind Attorney Opens Office



Pictured at his Braille writer in his new office at 462 1/2 State st. is Frank J. Healy, who recently passed the Oregon bar examinations after graduating from the Willamette university law school last June. Although blind, Healy will practice general law, but will do more in probate and wills. He also teaches wills at the Willamette university law school. (Photo by Don Dill, Statesman staff photographer.)

Vet Offers to Wed Italian Girl to Block Deportation Proceedings

NEW YORK, Dec. 20 (AP)—A 27-year-old Yonkers, N.Y., music teacher and ex-GI, said tonight he is engaged to marry 21-year-old Maria Formicola, who faces deportation because a former soldier she came here to marry died before she arrived.

Frank Alfidi, the music teacher, said in Yonkers he had visited Miss Formicola at Ellis Island and offered to be the ex-service man bridegroom which immigration authorities have said she must have to remain in this country.

The Italian girl, tentatively denied admission to this country because her ex-GI fiancé was killed in an accident the day after she sailed from Italy, still was at Ellis Island tonight.

"She is 100 per cent with me," Alfidi said. "I told her I had a ring for her, and asked if she wanted to marry me. She said 'Yes.' And even wrote out a statement to that effect in case I need it at any inquiry held by the immigration officials."

Alfidi said he would attend a hearing on the girl's appeal, scheduled before the immigration commissioner in Philadelphia next week, probably Monday.

The music teacher, saying he wants to help the girl "because she was a victim of circumstances," declared he has telegraphed to President Truman and Attorney General Tom C. Clark asking help in gaining permission for the girl to remain in the United States.

Ten New York city cousins of Miss Formicola announced today they will send a family delegation to the Philadelphia hearing to support her appeal.

Their offer and Alfidi's were among many offers of help she has received in her appeal from the immigration ruling that she "must return to Italy because she has no present plans for marriage to any ex-member of the armed forces."

Christmas Ship Deadline Jan. 10
SEATTLE, Dec. 20 (AP)—The deadline for food and clothing contributions to the Christmas ship for American-occupied Germany and Austria has been set for January 10.

Total donations now amount to 46 carloads, including 13 from Oregon cities and towns, Committee Chairman Ralph Grossman and Howard W. Parish announced today. Six eastern Washington towns have donated a carload "each and Ritzville and the surrounding area two carloads.

Reduced Aid to Curb Shipments
WASHINGTON, Dec. 20 (AP)—The \$75,000,000 cut which congress made in winter aid funds for France, Italy and Austria may force a sharp reduction in shipments of raw materials to those countries, officials said today, but every effort will be made to maintain a heavy flow of food.

The administration authorities who made that prediction started a round of conferences looking to a general revision of plans.

Weather
Salem — Max. 52 Min. 40 Precip. 0
Portland — 50 40 0
San Francisco — 48 38 trace
Chicago — 31 20 trace
New York — 2 10 0
Willamette river 6.5 feet.
FORECAST (from U.S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem): Partly cloudy today and tonight with occasional light showers in the morning, decreasing in the afternoon with brief periods of clearing. Highest temperature today 48, low tonight 28.

Mediation Meeting Recesses

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20 (AP)—Day-long government efforts to win a settlement and prevent a country-wide strike of 50,000 AFL employes of the Western Union Telegraph company were recessed just before midnight tonight without a sign of progress.

Union leaders said they expected to call the strike of 50,000 workers momentarily. They declined to announce their walkout hour in advance, but said it would be before Tuesday.

Cyrus S. Ching, director of the federal mediation and conciliation service, centered a personal try at a solution on separate conferences with top company and union officials. He spoke longest with W. D. Gaillard, jr., Western Union's vice-president in charge of employment relations.

Nothing Offered
"The company has offered us nothing," Adolph Brungs, head of the Western Union division of the AFL Commercial Telegraphers union, told reporters as tonight's meeting broke up. Union leaders made it clear they are going ahead with strike plans. They set a series of mass meetings in principal cities for tomorrow to map final strategy.

Apparently, however, the call was delayed at least until midday tomorrow, since another conference was arranged for 10:30 a. m. Eastern standard time.

No Joint Meeting
The conciliators spent most of their time conferring with company negotiators. There was no joint meeting between the union and company.

The workers, said by the union to be averaging 96 cents an hour now, are demanding a 15 cent hourly increase. The company claims the average hourly earnings now are \$1.234.

Ship Cracks In Pacific Gale

HONOLULU, Dec. 20 (AP)—A tank landing ship with 50 men aboard was reported in danger of breaking apart 500 miles west of Johnston Island today, while at least five other damaged ships crept through quieting seas toward havens.

The 14th naval district dispatched a tug to aid the navy LST 1135, whose crewmen were welding metal ships into the hull to keep her from splitting. Sides and main deck had developed dangerous cracks under the battering of huge waves.

Other cripples, all reported under control, were the Liberty ships Simon Benson and James F. Harrrell, the freighter Middlesex Victory, the army tanker El Caney and the small army freighter FS-245.

Portland School To Send Christmas Gifts to Chemawa

PORTLAND, Dec. 20 (AP)—Pupils at the Chemawa Indian school were remembered for Christmas gifts by the fourth grade of Shattuck school here.

The girls sewed old clothes and the boys painted and repaired cars and trucks to fill several boxes. These same youngsters recently sent a hundred candy bars to school children in Skipton, England, and 45 pounds of food to Navajo Indians.

King Mihai Told To Select Bride

VIENNA, Austria, Dec. 20 (AP) King Mihai I was told by his Romanian government before he left for London in mid-November to "find someone suitable for marriage while abroad," the 28-year-old monarch's aide-de-camp said today.

Mihai has denied multiple reports that he is engaged to the Danish-French Princess Anne of Bourbon-Parma.

If at First You Don't Succeed...

DUNN, N. C., Dec. 20 (AP)—Mrs. I. J. Gilchrist of Lillington, who said she made up her mind after the birth of her first daughter 25 years ago not to be disappointed if the next child wasn't a boy, gave birth to her 12th daughter early today.

Mrs. Gilchrist said she still wasn't disappointed.
The Gilchrist has no sons.

3 SHOPPING DAYS LEFT
BUY CHRISTMAS SEAS

Russian Voters to Give Stalin Birthday Present
MOSCOW, Dec. 20 (AP)—Tomorrow is election day and Prime Minister Stalin's 68th birthday. The balloting will be in five republics for deputies to local soviets. Stalin himself is a candidate from the Stalin electoral district.