

ASHLAND climate, without the aid of medicine, cures nine cases out of ten of asthma. This is a proven fact.

ASHLAND DAILY TIDINGS

MALARIA germs cannot survive three months in the rich ozone of Ashland. The pure domestic water helps.

VOLUME 3 (Successor to the Semi-Weekly Tidings, Vol. 43)

ASHLAND, OREGON, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1921

No. 93

EYE WITNESS BACKS WATSON CHARGES

EARLY MORNING FIRE DESTROYS MORTON HOME

DEFECTIVE FLUE BLAMED FOR FLAMES DESTROYING HOME OF CHARLES E. MORTON, CORNER OF ASHLAND AND EUCLID

Severed Telephone Connection Delays Fire Alarm; Loss Estimated at \$3500; Partially Covered by Insurance; May Rebuild on Lot.

Fire thought to have started from a defective flue at 1 o'clock this morning completely destroyed the residence and house furnishings owned by Charles E. Morton, at the corner of Ashland street and Euclid avenue. Mr. Morton, an employe of the Southern Pacific company, will arrive from the south today, following a telegram sent by Mrs. Morton, who states that the loss is between \$3500 and \$3800. Although the home was insured, Mrs. Morton was unable to state the exact amount. A trunk, table and chair were the only articles saved from the fire.

Besides Mrs. Morton, those present in the house at the time of the fire, were Mrs. Clyde Williamson, daughter of Mrs. Morton, and Mrs. Williamson's little daughter, Jane. Mrs. Morton is quartered temporarily at the D. P. Blue home, 500 Ashland street. Mrs. Williamson, who was ill and under the care of her mother, has returned to her home with her daughter.

Mrs. Morton states that she and her daughter had retired at 10 o'clock. Soon after midnight, Mrs. Morton smelled smoke, but was unable to locate the source as coming from other than a dying fire in the stove. Shortly afterward she was awakened by the crackling of flames and, opening the trap door to the attic, discovered the walls and roof in flames. Mrs. Morton tried to call the fire department, but could not get central, because the fire had burned off the telephone wire.

When the fire department arrived, in response to an alarm turned in from the Southern Pacific round-house workers, who saw the flames from the railroad yards—fire had nearly destroyed the house, the roof having already caved in. Mrs. Morton was very anxious that their chicken house be saved, as it contained many valuable purebred chickens.

Mr. and Mrs. Morton came to Ashland a little over a year ago, from Seattle, Wash., purchasing the destroyed home and making many improvements. Mrs. Morton intimated that a new home may be rebuilt on the property.

Mrs. Morton is a Frenchwoman who was born in the Argentine Republic. Her father fought the Germans under Marshal Foch in 1870. Her grandfather was postmaster of Bordeaux for many years. When Marshal Foch passed through Ashland on his special train December 2, Mrs. Morton talked with the great Frenchman in his native tongue.

Public utilities of Oregon will pay taxes the coming year on a total valuation in the state of \$4,447,794.76 more than last year. The full value for 1920 was \$181,057,534, and for this year, \$185,504,798.29.

Wife of China President Held For Ransom

SHANGHAI, Dec. 20.—Madam Sun Yat Sen, wife of the president of the South China republic, has been kidnapped and is being held for a half million dollars ransom in the mountains, it was learned today.

Harding Thinks Conference Has Been Success

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 20.—President Harding considers the disarmament conference successful, it was stated officially at the White House today, in the course of the president's bi-weekly conference with newspaper correspondents.

The executive thinks that if the conference wrought nothing concrete, the effect of it would still be one of the most beneficial things ever given the world.

\$18,245,821 SPENT ON STATE HIGHWAYS DURING PAST YEAR

There has been expended under the supervision of the state highway department during the fiscal year of 1921 approximately \$18,245,821.37, according to a report prepared by Herbert Nunn, state highway engineer.

These funds were divided as follows: State funds \$15,031,655.14 Federal co-operative funds 2,181,956.65 County funds 985,831.42 Railway funds 46,378.16 Besides these amounts the state highway department has supervised the surveys and location for market roads, for which money is available to the aggregate of approximately \$2,000,000.

During the year the commission has finished construction of approximately 188 miles of pavement, 499 miles of macadam and 504 miles of grading, or a total of 1191 miles completed. It also has completed 98 bridges at an approximate total cost of \$1,444,180.

The overhead cost of operating the state highway department, as set out in the report was 5.98 per cent of the total amount of money expended. This included the expense of the highway commission and secretary, legal department, auditing, cost keeping, testing materials, road maps and information reports, bridge designs for counties, engineering work furnished to counties, surveys, and engineering for market roads, state surveys for co-operative construction, all engineering for construction on state and co-operative roads, and supervision of maintenance.

Bayonets Halt Irish Riot; 2 Children Die in Flames

STORES PLUNDERED BY LOOTERS; ONE KILLED IN FIGHT

BELFAST, Dec. 20.—British soldiers cleared the Falls road of looters and snipers at the point of the bayonet today. It was a regular battle charge with cold steel.

The sniping became so general during the day that practically all the streets became unsafe for traffic. Many stores were plundered when the looting broke out.

One person was killed and another wounded during the heavy firing which continued throughout the night.

Haz Kik



In order that the Chamber of Commerce have at least one definite plan to land something for Ashland the coming year, we would suggest that the bankers-directors be called together to consider raising a bonus to get a fur-lined municipal bathtub. That I think, would best suit their highbrow necessities; besides, maybe they can get something we don't need better than they have succeeded in getting what we do need to put the town forward. Right now, the Chamber of Commerce needs something to warm it back to life, and a fur-lined bathtub might do it. Seems that nothing else will.

ASTORIA HOME IS BURNED DURING PARENTS' ABSENCE

ASTORIA, Or., Dec. 20.—Harold, 12, and Hilving, 10, children of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hilgren, living on a ranch near here, were burned to death last night when the family home caught fire during the parents' absence, and was razed to the ground. The tragedy is an indirect toll exacted by the freezing weather experienced here, the parents having been called to a neighboring ranch to aid in the thawing out of water pipes frozen yesterday afternoon.

The Hilgren home was enveloped in flames when the fire was discovered. The cause of the fire has not been ascertained.

Mary Pickford



The most popular "movie" star, Mary Pickford, looked like this a few years ago. It was in the days before she even dreamed of a future in film pictures. The picture shows her as she appeared when playing a small part back in 1903 in "The Fatal Wedding."

Christian Workers Arrange Program Xmas, Co. Farm

A special meeting of the Christian Workers' Band was called recently for the purpose of arranging for a program and tree at the county farm next Thursday night. A small fund raised at a recent box social, augmented by gifts from the young people's societies, will be used to furnish decorations and the usual candy and nuts. The program will be largely drawn from the children's exercises to be given by the various churches in order to afford the old people the unwonted atmosphere of childhood at the Christmas season. Carols will be sung also.



Gen. Armando Diaz, commander in chief of the Italian armies and one of Italy's delegates to the arms conference.

FRANCE WILLING TO COMPROMISE ON NAVAL RATIO

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 20.—France is willing to accept the naval ratio of 1.75 as compared with the 5-5-3 ratio of the United States, Great Britain and Japan, only in so far as relates to capital ships. France cannot accept anything like that ratio relating to auxiliary craft and submarines.

This is the gist of Premier Briand's message to Secretary of State Hughes, it was officially revealed today.

FREEZING SNAP PREDICTED FOR PACIFIC COAST

PORTLAND, Or., Dec. 20.—In the severe storms now sweeping in from the Pacific ocean, the weather bureau sees something that will bring a heavy snowfall to the Pacific Northwest or else send the mercury below freezing point.

The storm warning flag is flying all along the Pacific coast.

Married Today

When Glen L. Inman and Florence Mastier, popular Ashland young people, were taken out of town this morning by Howard Gear, an old shoe was observed tied behind the auto. Following this slight clue, it was learned that the couple was bound for Grants Pass with matrimonial intent. They were married this afternoon at the Baptist parsonage in that city, at 3 o'clock. The exact time of their return cannot be ascertained, but their friends are preparing a warm welcome, and are watching both railroad and highway.

Junior High Notes

By FLORENCE WILSON
Miss Doretha Abraham and some of the Junior high girls sold candy at the high school Saturday evening, for the Parent-Teachers' association.

The first six grades of the Junior high are going to combine and have the Christmas program in the lower hall, Friday afternoon.

The sixth A, seventh and eighth grades will have a program Friday in the assembly. There is to be a play, "The Ruggles Family," and the seventh A girls will give a drill. There will be recitations and a Bible reading. The glee club will sing Christmas songs.

Several pupils of the lower grades have been sent home because of having chicken pox.

The Christmas vacation will start Saturday, the twenty-fourth, and school will commence again Tuesday, the third of January, 1922.

START DRILLING FOR OIL IN SAMS VALLEY

The Seattle Oil and Gas company has taken over the leases in Sams Valley, formerly held by the Vulcan Oil company and will start operations with a drill capable of going to a depth of 1000 feet. This High outfit will be supplemented by a larger one if prospects justify. The work will be started on the Smith and Townsend property near Beagle, and will further extend the hole, now down to the depth of 280 feet. A good showing has been made. A number of local people are interested in the project.

SALEM, Or.—The Associated Oil company will build a 50,000 gallon storage tank at this point.

Spain to Release Americans For Foreign Legion

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 20.—The Spanish minister of war will release all Americans in the foreign legion on condition that they return the bonus given them at the time of their enlistment, the Spanish ambassador informed the state department today.

Experts Urge Bankruptcy For Germany

LONDON, Dec. 20.—Recommendations that a receivership in bankruptcy be appointed for Germany if an indemnity moratorium is granted, were made to Premier George and Briand, premier of France, by experts who have been studying the reparations situation in Germany and the financial condition of that country.

FRUIT GROWERS' LEAGUE ORGANIZE FOR COMING YEAR

MEDFORD, Or., Dec. 20.—A meeting of the Fruit Growers league was held Saturday afternoon in the public library, at which the following officers for the coming year were elected: President, Hal W. Bingham; first vice president, E. W. Carlton; second vice president, William H. Bratton; secretary, Harry Rosenberg; treasurer, D. R. Wood; board of directors, class of 1924—Hal Bingham, Guy Conner, F. C. Reimer, Carl Tengwald, Eric Wold, Gordon Voorhies; class of 1923—Harry Rosenberg, D. R. Wood, W. C. Moore, B. Mueller, Chester Pritch, Halbert Deuel; class of 1922—F. Newhall, F. C. Kenley, William Bratton, A. A. Schuchard, P. Shearer and Bert Anderson.

The league was organized in 1914, when the necessity of securing a man to fill the place of Prof. P. J. O'Gara, who was at the time county pathologist, arose. After the organization of the league in 1914 it was quite active for several years under the administration of W. A. Sumner, manager of the Potter Palmer orchards. Interest of the growers in the league lagged for two or three years and the body was inactive until the spring of 1920. A that time labor problems, the blight situation and other vital questions called imperatively for action, and on May 29, 1920, several of the foremost growers of the valley met at the Hotel Medford for the purpose of forming an organization for the protection of the orchardists of the Rogue River valley. This meeting took over the skeleton of the former league and decided to continue it, electing a president, a secretary, a treasurer, and a board of directors.

Labor was scarce and the league established an employment bureau in addition to seeing that the orchardists of the valley were represented at the county court and that the county pathologist and home

(Continued on Page 4)

SAYS SOLDIER HUNG WITHOUT PROPER TRIAL

EX-SOLDIER CLAIMS TO HAVE SEEN TWELVE MEN HANGED IN FRANCE; CITES INSTANCE OF ILLEGAL COURT MARTIAL

George Taylor, of Philadelphia, Offers Photographic Evidence of Three Hangings in One Day; French Officers Condemn American Without Trial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 20.—Twelve American soldiers were hanged at Camp Wilson, near Issur-tille, France, while he and his buddies, former privates of the Twenty-eighth division, looked on, George Taylor, of Philadelphia, testified before the senate committee investigating Senator Watson's accusations that American soldiers were illegally executed and inhumanly treated overseas during the world war.

"On April 25, 1919, I saw three men hung in one day," testified Taylor, who said he offered Watson a photograph of the hangings. "There was a white sergeant, named Blodgett. A girl was the accuser of Blodgett, but Blodgett told me that she came to his room at night and asked him for money. He denied his guilt to me the day before he was hanged."

Taylor told of taking Blodgett to the court martial, all members of which were French except one. Taylor said that Blodgett had no counsel to represent him during the trial.

Taylor claims that some words were spoken in French by the French officers and Blodgett was then ordered taken back to the guard house.

"The next day a Frenchman came and spoke to me in French," testified Taylor. "What does he mean?" Blodgett asked me. "He says you are going to be hung tomorrow," I told him. "Why, I haven't been tried yet—I've not had a chance for my life," he replied."

Taylor said that after the hanging he saw the major of the medical corps cut out Blodgett's brains and heart.

TWENTY-THREE DROWNED RUSSIAN ICE BREAKER RAMS STEAMER SAAREMAA

HELSINGFORS, Finland, Dec. 20.—Twenty-three passengers of the steamship Saaremaa were drowned today when a Russian ice breaker rammed the vessel.

Home from College—Earl Beigel and Barton Winnie have returned from college and are spending the holidays visiting Ashland friends.

Auto Accessories Taken—W. A. C. Conner, on Glen View drive, reports that his garage was entered Friday night by a sneak thief, and his car stripped of tires and other accessories, making a total loss of approximately \$75.

Words Cost \$10.—William Hart, who operates a restaurant on Fourth street, yesterday paid a \$10 fine in Justice of Peace Gowdy's court for using "vile and obscene language" on December 14. The alleged language was used in Stevens' restaurant in connection with paying a bill for meals partaken of by Mrs. Hart.

"Really, My Dear Watson—"

Senator Thomas E. Watson of Georgia (portrait herewith) certainly started something when he said in debate in the senate:

"How many senators know that a private soldier was frequently shot by his officers because of some complaint against officers' insolence; and that they had gallows upon which men were hanged, day after day, without court-martial or any other form of trial? How many senators know that I had and have the photograph of one of those gallows, upon which 21 white boys had already been executed at sunrise when the photograph was taken; and there were others waiting in the camp jails to be hanged morning after morning."

Senator Wadsworth of New York, chairman of the military affairs committee, demanded that Senator Watson appear before that committee and substantiate his statements. The Georgian replied he defied the "demand." He would debate it out in the senate. He intimated that he had no confidence in the committee and that his witnesses would be in danger. After debate a special committee was appointed to investigate the charges. Braudette of Connecticut, Ernst of Kentucky, Wills of Ohio, Overman of North Carolina and Shields of Tennessee. General Pershing made a statement declaring the Watson charges to be "without foundation." The Georgian warned Pershing that a general who called a senator a liar could be called before the senate and reprimanded. After more debate, extending over several days, the situation was apparently straightened out so that Senator Watson will go before the special committee.



Hull Succeeds White

Cordell Hull of Carthage, Tenn., was chosen chairman of the Democratic national committee to succeed George White of Marietta, O., following refusal of Edward F. Gohra, committee man from Missouri, to resign to make way for Breckinridge Long of St. Louis and Washington, D. C. Mr. Long and Mr. Hull were the only two all factions agreed upon for the chairmanship.

Mr. Hull is a lawyer and a former judge. He was a member of congress from the Sixtieth to Sixty-sixth congresses. He is a Spanish-American veteran and is unmarried. He has been a member of the national committee eight years. The new chairman's policies are briefly outlined in the following statement:

"The first step in administering the affairs of the committee will be to pay off the present indebtedness and create a good atmosphere in which to work. We shall try to pay all our debts at an early date. "We shall make every possible effort to develop the Democratic national committee into the most militant and efficient organization within our power."

