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NEGRO MAKES TORCH OF SELF

Saturates Clothes With Kerosene
in Cell, Applies Match and
Is Horribly Burned.

NEW YORK.—A human bonfire sent thrills of terror through the Tombs prison. Sylvester Crockett, a Negro, intent on cheating the law and life, and Sing Sing, devised and carried out one of the most gruesome schemes to end it all. In his cell at the Tombs, he first drenched clothing and his body from head to toe with kerosene and then wound a noose made out of a handkerchief and after tying it so



He Was a Human Torch.

tightly around his neck that it stopped his breath, applied a match to his oil-saturated clothing. Within a second he was a human torch, the flames scorching the cell and the fumes spreading throughout the jail. He was horribly burned before attendants could extinguish the blaze, and died in terrible agony.

The prisoner was to have been taken to Sing Sing to begin a five years' sentence for an attack on a policeman.

When Deputy Warden MacManus, aided by keepers, had put out the flames, Crockett was a sight that made even the hardened Tombs guards shudder. Except for shreds of coat and pants that had been pasted to the body by the liquid fire, there was not a bit of clothing left on the man. Every bit of hair had been burned. Even his face seemed to have been soaked in oil, for the sight of one eye was literally burned out and where the eyebrows had been there were holes from which hung greenish shreds of skin.

The prisoner had been left in the cell pending arrangements for his being finger-printed, photographed and measured. In his cell stood a can of kerosene used to clean ink from the hands of prisoners after being finger printed.

Crockett made not a single outcry while he was burning.

OREGON NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

Charged with attempting to control the export lumber business of the Pacific coast by illegal methods, the Douglas Fir Exploitation and Export company was made defendant at a hearing held in Portland before W. W. Sheppard, examiner of the federal trade commission. The hearing, which was preceded by a similar one at San Francisco will be followed by a similar investigation at Seattle.

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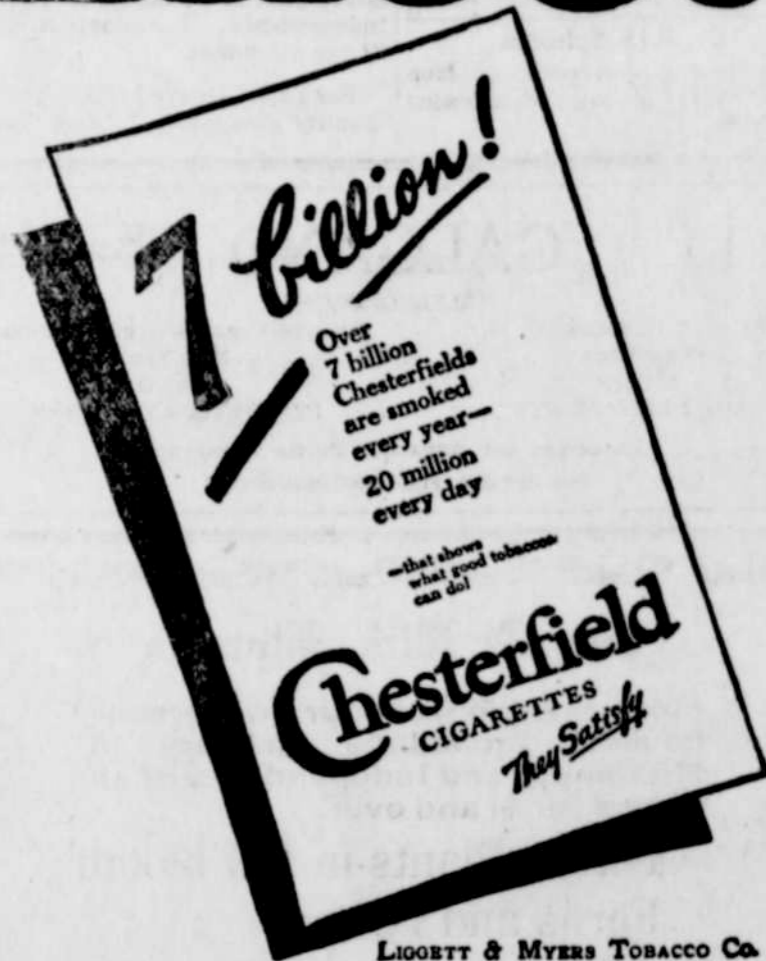
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