

# ALBANY DAILY DEMOCRAT

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No. 244

## EXPLOSION OF 35 DYNAMITE CAPS MANGLES BOY AND INJURES M. PRINE

Ross Pierce, of Crabtree, Badly Torn When Box of Caps Accidentally Explodes on Prine Farm.

### DYNAMITE NOT FIRED

Pierce is in Lebanon Hospital Where Chances of Recovery Are Held Uncertain; Prine's Eye Injured.

Ross Pierce, 16 year old son of D. T. Pierce, of Crabtree, lies in the Lebanon hospital in a critical condition and Melvin Prine, well known farmer of the Crabtree neighborhood is at his home suffering from injuries as a result of the accidental explosion of 35 dynamite caps late yesterday afternoon.

Young Pierce was helping Prine blast stumps on the latter's place 2 1/2 miles southeast of Crabtree on the Lebanon road. They had just fired off several blasts and were returning to their powder supply for more when the caps were discharged in some unknown manner. Pierce was nearest the box and was badly mangled, his left leg, side and arm being torn open, his face scarred and his body badly torn from the force of the explosion. It was thought last night that he might die.

Pierce was standing almost over the box at the time and Prine was a short distance back. Prine is suffering from an injured eye and is unable to see out of it today. It is not known whether he will lose the sight of it as yet.

Following the accident two doctors were called from Lebanon and Prine was given attention at his home, while Pierce was removed to the Lebanon hospital where a large number of pieces of the caps were removed from his body.

Following the operation physicians expressed considerable doubt to whether the victim of the explosion would recover because of the loss of blood and shock.

Both had a miraculous escape from a worse fate, for their box of dynamite, containing about 60 pounds of the explosive, sat on a stump near the caps but was not discharged.

Prine, who is about 40 years old, is a son of William Prine, one of the pioneer settlers of the Crabtree country, and one of the best known families in that section.

MONTESANO, Feb. 17.—By A. P.—Frank R. Vangilder, who commanded platoon in Centralia contingent during armistice day parade and stood beside Warren Grimm when he was shot, testified today that the legion members made no move toward the L. W. W. hall before the shooting started.

## CONFLICT SHOWN IN FINDINGS OF INVESTIGATORS OF AIR PROGRAM

Majority and Minority Reports Filed at Washington

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17.—By A. P.—The house subcommittee which investigated the spruce production filed a majority report condemning the wartime aviation program as a "riot of waste"; minority report defended it as a "record of achievement".

A prominent part of both reports is given to the controversy over the construction of a government-built railroad, which it has been charged, redounded to the benefit of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad of which Mr. Ryan is a director.

In detail the majority report takes up the alleged waste and extravagance in the early aircraft appropriations, the alleged failure of the De Havilland planes, the alleged failure to get sufficient American planes to the battle front, the spruce production project in the northwest, millions of alleged waste on cost-plus contracts and many specific charges of inefficiency and squandering of millions of dollars.

Minority Attacks Findings. In turn, Representative Lea's minority report replies to the majority findings as "intemperate, biased and an exaggeration of alleged mistakes and misstatements," a "gratuitous reflection upon men who faithfully served the government during the war" and a repetition of defamatory charges admittedly unsubstantiated by evidence.

## SENSATIONAL DIVORCE SUIT

Verd Hill, Prominent Rancher of Independence Made Defendant

Verd Hill, wealthy rancher and stock raiser of Independence is the defendant in a sensational suit for divorce filed in the circuit court here today by Frances E. Hill. Custody of their two year old child, permanent alimony in the sum of \$20,000 and a one-third interest in Hill's real property, said to be worth \$60,000 is asked in the complaint.

A persistent course of cruel and inhuman treatment beginning shortly after their marriage, December 28, 1914 is charged against Hill by his wife. She says that on numerous occasions he abused her for her religious beliefs and referred to the Christian religion as "all d— superstition."

That her husband was penurious to the point of being a miser is also charged by the wife who says that when she would ask for money Hill would evade the question by asking her what she had done with the 75 cents he had given her last month. She avers that their house was littered with kettles and utensils spread around the floors to catch the rain from the leaky roof, which Hill refused to have mended.

In June 1918 Mrs. Hill says that her husband ordered her to get a woman to take care of her 3 months old baby and for her to take hold of and run the Independence "Monitor" for which he was negotiating the purchase. On refusing, she alleges he called her a "d— lazy cuss."

Before her marriage Mrs. Hill was Frances Helmick of this city.

## INFLUENZA CASES SHOWING INCREASE

Influenza is increasing in Albany according to the report which was issued at the city health bureau today. 39 cases are now under quarantine in this city.

## ANGLO-AMERICAN RELATIONS FOR NEXT GENERATION MAY DEPEND ON ALLIED REPLY TO WILSON'S NOTE

ENGLISH PRESS SAYS IMPOSSIBLE TO OVERESTIMATE GRAVITY WHICH MAY FOLLOW SUPREME COUNCIL'S REPLY TO WILSON'S OBJECTIONS ON ADRIATIC SETTLEMENT WHICH WAS GIVEN AMBASSADOR DAVIS TO FORWARD TO WASHINGTON.

LONDON, Feb. 17.—By Associated Press—"Anglo-American relations for the next generation may depend upon the terms of the reply," which the allied supreme council has completed to President's Wilson's objection to the compromise agreement reached on the Fiume controversy. This is the substance of the press comment here today on the situation.

It has been learned that the supreme council have completed the draft of their answer to Wilson's note on the Adriatic question and that they will hand it to Ambassador Davis tonight for transmission to Washington.

Publication of the text will probably be left to the President. The English press says that it is impossible to overestimate the importance and gravity of the results which may follow the council's reply.

This may be construed as meaning more than a withdrawal of the United States from the council of the allies and participation in the league of nations.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17.—By Associated Press—President Wilson in his memorandum to the allies concerning the proposed Adriatic settlement informed them that the United States might have to consider withdrawing the treaty of Versailles from the senate if the allies went ahead with their

plans without consulting the United States.

The American statement was not made as a threat but as a statement of the situation which might place the United States in the position of subscribing through the treaty to rights of sovereign and other agreements to which it was opposed, it was officially announced here today.

LONDON, Feb. 17.—President Wilson's note to the peace conference on the Adriatic question has furnished London political and newspaper circles with a surprise and interest surpassing that evoked by the Lansing-Wilson correspondence.

The Lansing incident was regarded as a family affair, toward which foreigners should be merely disinterested spectators. The president's reappearance as a determined party in the peace conference was construed as almost as threatening as his order for the George Washington to be prepared to take him home from France.

The first version of the event gave it the aspect of an ultimatum. Later information appeared to soften the stiff-necked position of the affair. This consisted of the messages from Washington that too sweeping a construction had been placed on Wilson's "memorandum." Nevertheless Millerand's cheerful observation that there was not a cloud on the horizon is taken merely as diplomatic optimism.

## MARKETS SOUGHT FOR WINE GRAPES

WASHINGTON.—With the advent of prohibition, uses and markets must be found for the products of 175,000 acres of wine vineyards in California and also for the considerable portions of table and raisin varieties of grapes that formerly were made into brandy. At least 4,000 cars of fresh wine grapes were shipped into the Eastern states and made into so-called non-alcoholic wines and grape sirup last season. A large quantity of unfermented juices was made in California, barreled and shipped East.

## BENSON APPOINTED TO SHIPPING BOARD

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17.—By A. P.—Rear Admiral Benson, chief of naval operations during the war, now retired, has been selected by the President to succeed John Barron Payne as chairman of the shipping board.

## ANAESTHETICS FOR TREES IS ADVISED

LONDON—The theory that trees should be treated with anaesthetics to enable them to withstand the shock of transplantation has been advanced here by Sir Jagadish Chatterjee in spite of their age. Realizing, he explained, that the difficulty of successful transplantation lay in the shock of removal, and that nerve effects in plants and animals were on similar lines, he treated these trees with anaesthetics and they bore the uprooting and removal well.

○ Sell Your Hatching Eggs Through Advertising  
○ Now is the hatching time of year. Hundreds of people have high class chickens and are willing to sell eggs for hatching. Other hundreds of people want to improve their strains or to start a pen of their own. The quickest, cheapest and best method of bringing these people together is through the columns of the Democrat. A 25 word ad will run for 25 cents, three times for 50 cents, a week for 75 cents or a month for \$2.50. Write your ad and send it in today.

## BANQUET TO TAKE PLACE TOMORROW

Father and Son Banquet takes place tomorrow night at the St. Francis hotel. A big crowd and lots of enthusiasm are promised. Dr. Poling will lead the singing. The principal speakers will be Bruce Evans and Professor Finerty. There will be a program of singing and instrumental music. Chicken dinner on menu.

## HOLLAND FIRM ON KEEPING KAISER

THE HAGUE, Feb. 17.—By A. P.—Holland will answer second note of the allies regarding the former Emperor of Germany by reiterating her original position, refusing to surrender him but acquiescing the request to guard him closely.

## GERMANS MAKING FOREIGNERS PAY

BERLIN—Foreign shoppers in some Berlin stores who are unwise enough to betray their identity are being assessed 50 percent over the retail prices to Germans. This is in accordance with a suggestion by the Berlin Chamber of Commerce in view of the low exchange rate of German Currency.

## READING REFUSES POST TO AMERICA

LONDON, Feb. 17.—By A. P.—Lloyd George has offered the ambassadorship at Washington to the Earl of Reading, former ambassador and he declined the post.

## LOS ANGELES TO BE FILM FINANCE HUB

What is said to be the forerunner of a movement to swing the financial capital of filmdom from New York to Los Angeles came to light with the announcement of the organization of the Special Pictures Corporation, financed through Aronson & Company, a Hellman interest, and one of the biggest stock and bond houses of the west. For several years people inside the motion picture industry in Los Angeles have been endeavoring to launch a movement which would result in establishing here the financial center of the film business, along with the production center.

## The Democrat Presidential Straw Ballot

Vote for one, placing X before name.

- Hoover
- Wood
- McAdoo
- Johnson
- Lowden
- Palmer
- Pershing
- Gerard

My party affiliation is

Name

Address

(Cut out, and mail or bring to The Democrat office. Mark envelopes "Straw Ballot.")

## VOTERS ASKED TO INDICATE CHOICE IN STRAW BALLOT

Presidential Possibilities Are Listed for Readers of The Democrat

The Democrat is publishing today the form of a straw ballot in an attempt to gain from the voters of Linn county some idea of the support that will be accorded the various men who have been mentioned as possible candidates for president of the United States.

The names are limited to those who figure prominently as candidates at the present writing. No attempt is made to give preference to any candidate. Mark an X opposite the name of the man you would prefer as president. Fill in your party affiliation and mail or bring the slip to the office of the Democrat. Write in name of any other candidate preferred if name is not listed on the ballot.

## CANDIDATES LATE IN BUDDING OUT

No Announcements Have Been Made as Yet in Linn County

Coming primary election May 21 is beginning to loom prominently on the horizon and throughout the various counties of the state announcement of the candidates for county positions are being made. In at least one county a straw vote has been taken to show the direction of the political air currents.

Although every county officer in Linn county with the exception of that of county judge, one commissioner and state senator, will be voted upon at the coming primary election, there has been a dearth of announcements as to whose names would appear on the ballot for the voters of this county to pass upon.

It is assumed that all the present incumbents will be candidates to succeed themselves. And unless times have changed there will be considerable competition. In some cases a warm fight is promised and in others little or no opposition.

Sheriff Kendall and county treasurer, Miss Lenore Powell, will have served two years at the expiration of their present terms. County Clerk Russell has served three terms, of two years each, and county commissioner, Thos. Butler, four terms of four years each.

Miss Velma Davis, county recorder is serving her second term of two years. The county school superintendent, Mrs. Ida Maxwell Cummings, will complete her first term of four years this year. The election of the county assessor is also one of the responsibilities of the voters again this year, as the term of J. S. Van Winkle, appointed to succeed County Assessor Earl Fisher expires Jan. 1, 1920.

## EVIDENCE THAT CLARK MAY HAVE TRIED TO KILL HIMSELF IS FOUND

Bottle of Chloroform Discovered and Indications that Clark Became Ill and Gave up the Effort.

### NOTE WAS RECEIVED

Police Get Word that Suicide of Dead Woman's Husband Has Taken Place on Kings Heights.

PORTLAND, Feb. 17.—By A. P.—Russell Clark has been found probably fatally wounded in a room in one of the leading hotels here late today with a revolver beside him. A business partner of Clark has informed the police that he was \$27,000 short in his accounts.

PORTLAND, Feb. 17.—By Associated Press—Following the receipt of a note this morning by the Portland police department signed "Russell Clark" and reading, "I have committed suicide on Kings Heights", a search of that locality brought to light a number of towels, several empty Chloroform bottles and also indications that Clark may have attempted to chloroform himself but became sick and gave up the effort.

Authorities have been searching for Clark ever since yesterday evening when his wife's body, with three revolver wounds was discovered by neighbors in Clark's home near Troutdale about 10 miles from Portland.

Clark is the state agent for the Oregon Liberty Motor company and a student aviator. He returned to Portland from Pendleton Sunday in an airplane with Pilot Walter Lees of a local air transportation company.

Clark was last seen leaving his farm home about 8 o'clock Monday morning. He spoke to several of his neighbors on leaving and warned not to visit his house until in the afternoon as his wife was ill. Neighbors became alarmed in the evening over Mrs. Clark's failure to be up and around and entered the house to find her dead. A 25 automatic revolver was found in a room adjoining the one containing the body. Death is said to have instantaneous. Ownership of the weapon has not been established.

The Clarks who have been married 8 years were well known in Portland.

(Continued on Page 8)

## Late Wire Report

Radio Stations Relinquished  
WASHINGTON, Feb. 17 By A. P.—The naval operation of all private radio stations which was assumed during the period of the war will be relinquished at midnight, February 29, according to an announcement that was issued here today by the naval bureau.

Council Hands Davis Reply  
LONDON, Feb. 17.—By A. P.—The supreme council handed Ambassador Davis its reply to Wilson's communication on the Adriatic question today. Note is said to be modification of one prepared Saturday.

Railroad Merger Forecast  
ST. PAUL, Feb. 17.—By A. P.—Merger of the Great Northern, Northern Pacific and Burlington railroads into one great transcontinental system shortly after relinquishment of government control is forecast in railroad circles.

Cailloux Trail Begins  
PARIS, Feb. 17.—By A. P.—Joseph Cailloux, former premier of France, went on trial today charged with treason. Death penalty is possible.

Council Makes Decision  
LONDON, Feb. 17.—By A. P.—The supreme council of the allies have decided definitely upon internationalization of the Dardanelles. Details have not been worked out.

## New Classified

FOR SALE—About two dozen laying White Leghorn hens and pullets. \$1.50 each. See J. A. Humphrey at P. O., or Phone 579 L. 17119

FOR SALE—Gilt edge farm securities. Interest 6 per cent, payable semi-annually. Amounts \$100 or more, Phone 74, Barney Hecker, 105 W. 2nd St., Albany, Ore.

WANTED—By young unmarried man, room by month, within three blocks of Postoffice. Address Paul Murphy, The Democrat.

FOR SALE—A 1916 Ford car with Electric starter and lights. Call H. B. Springer, Shedd, Oregon. Phone 18-F-22. 17119\*

WANTED—Party with tractor wants ploughing. Call Homer Hight, Phone 53 F 3. 17124\*

FOR SALE—20 ton of good cheat and oat hay. Will deliver in town for \$15 and \$16 per ton, if taken the first of this week. Inquire 1023 East 3rd St. 17120

FOR SALE—Eggs for hatching, from S. C. White Leghorns, Tankard and O. A. C. strain. Price \$1.25 per 15 or \$7.00 per 100. Isaac Campbell, Phone 781 J, 1329 E. Water St. 17128\*

FOR SALE—160 acres timber land in Twp. 37, S. 2 E. Or will trade for Albany residence property, or improved acreage, and pay difference in cash. If any good property considered. E. T. Shaffer, No. 413 Park St., Lebanon, Ore. 17119\*