

OREGON GRAND LODGE SECEDES

Grand Officers of A. O. U. W. Leaves Supreme Lodge and Becomes Himself a Sovereign Body.

The Portland Telegram in its issue of December 8 says: Rather than submit longer to what it regarded as an inequitable and unjust imposition of taxes for the benefit of other jurisdictions by the supreme lodge of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, the grand lodge of Oregon has seceded and itself become a sovereign body. Not only has the grand lodge by this drastic action renounced its allegiance and severed all connection with the supreme lodge, but it has revised its constitution and bylaws so that all reference to the supreme lodge has been omitted.

This step was taken at a called meeting of the grand lodge Monday, November 22, over the protest of Supreme Master W. M. Uarvis, who came to Portland from Muscatine, Ia., to endeavor to ward off what he foresaw would be a solar plexus blow to the national organization, and despite the eloquence exhibited by Grand Recorder C. T. Spencer of California in advocacy of supreme lodge policy. The Golden State official happened to be in this city on his way to San Francisco from Seattle, where he investigated a claim laid by relatives of a member who had disappeared, and Supreme Master Narvis petitioned him to join hands in the effort to stay the threatened proceedings. This aid Grand Recorder Spencer is reported to have extended the more willingly for the reason that the secession of the grand lodge of Oregon, the richest in proportion to membership in the jurisdiction, meant a heavier burden for California to bear.

So far as possible, a cloak of secrecy was thrown about the affair, with such success that beyond those interested the facts connected with the step placing the grand lodge of Oregon on an independent plane have not become known until 16 days after the called meeting was held. Not only do grand lodge officials declare that the action was perfectly justified, in fact inevitable unless the Oregon jurisdiction was willing to bow its neck under the yoke of taxation and watch a constant stream of its coin flow out of the state, but they assert that since the secession a livelier interest has been awakened in lodge affairs in this state, and the outlook for the future on an independent basis is rosy.

GRANTS PASS TAXED ON \$2,239,960

City Council of That City is Preparing Tax Levy for Coming Year.

GRANTS PASS, Dec. 9.—The county clerk in a communication to the city council has certified to the amount of taxable property in the corporate limits of the city of Grants Pass, which amounts to \$2,239,960, and the same was referred to the finance committee of the council, which is preparing the tax levy for the coming fiscal year. If the levy this year is the same as last year, six mills, it will bring in a revenue of \$13,438.60, or about \$4000 short of the running expenses of the city, which shortage will have to be raised by license, etc. The city has a right, however, to levy two mills more, providing the extra assessment is used for a special purpose, which would be about \$5000 more.

CURRY COUNTY TO GET FIRST BANK

PORT ORFORD, Or., Dec. 9.—Curry county is to have a bank. This will be the first institution of the kind that has ever opened its doors to the patronage of this wealthy section of Oregon. The new bank will be at Port Orford. George D. Wood of Appleton, Wis., who made an inspection of the county early last fall, is the prime figure in the enterprise. His local associates will be: E. A. Bailey, C. H. Bailey, W. I. Colebrook, W. J. Ward, W. A. Wood and W. A. Bishnell, all of that city. Curry county is nearly as large in area as the state of Rhode Island.

\$500,000 LOSS KALAMAZOO FIRE

Enter Business Portion of City Endangered—Outside Cities Asked for Aid.

KALAMAZOO, Mich., Dec. 9.—Damage aggregating \$500,000 was done by a fire that started at midnight and for a time threatened to destroy the business district of the city. When the flames went by the control of the local fire department telegraphic dispatches to surrounding cities brought additional fire fighting apparatus. Until 6 o'clock this morning the firemen worked before the conflagration was checked. The Burdick House arcade and other buildings were totally destroyed. Scores of merchants sustained heavy losses because of goods damaged by water. The origin of the fire has not been learned.

NEW IRRIGATION COMPANY FORMED NEAR EAGLE POINT

Articles of incorporation have been filed with the secretary of state for the Little Butte Irrigation company. The principal office of the new company will be at Eagle Point and it will engage in a general irrigation business. The incorporators are: E. S. Wolfer, L. K. Hawk, G. G. Guthrie and W. W. Taylor. The capital stock amounts to \$1400.

SEARCHING FOR BODIES OF LOS DUCK HUNTERS

OAKLAND, Cal., Dec. 9.—Search was instituted today for the bodies of the two of three duck hunters who lost their lives off Point Richmond last night. The body of Deputy Sheriff J. J. Burrows of Contra Costa county has been recovered. The other two, Richard C. Casabonne and an unknown companion, are still in the water. The three men were hunting yesterday in a small boat. Late in the evening they were overtaken by a squall and capsized.

SON OF OREGON MAN DESERTS FROM NAVY

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 9.—Search is being made by the San Francisco police for Fred H. Brockawa, alleged to be a deserter from the United States navy, who escaped from Deputy Sheriff D. Gillis of Los Angeles, who was returning with him to the Mare Island navy station. Brockawa, who is but 18 years of age, is said to be the son of a wealthy Oregon lumber man.

DYNAMITE-FED HENS ARE SAFE FROM AXE

And Farmer Doesn't Even Dare Crack One of Their Eggs for Fear It May Blow Up.

WINSTED, Conn., Dec. 9.—A man who has a small farm a few miles from this town does not dare to trample on a small portion of it, and is afraid to eat his own hens' eggs. Heavy fowls he had been fattening for Christmas are immune from death for the present, so far as his killing them is concerned.

Dynamite is the cause of his trouble. He opened two one-pound sticks of the explosive, into which a little frost had found its way, and after breaking the cylinders into pieces spread them on a flat stone in the sun to thaw. He meant to use the dynamite in a lot he is clearing. When he went to get the explosive after he had drilled holes in a big boulder he saw a flock of his hens scratching in the dynamite and eating it as they would eat small gravel. That's why the farmer does not dare to eat his own hens' eggs, for he fears particles of dynamite may lurk in the shells.

"Who knows where that dynamite they ate is now?" he said, sadly, today. "Suppose it's got into the shells? Think I'd run the risk of cracking one of those eggshells? Yet how are you going to eat eggs without breaking the shells?" And there's the story in an eggshell. The puzzled farmer cannot tell by the looks of his hens which ate the dynamite, therefore he does not dare to eat any of them at Christmas. As for swinging heavily on their heads with an axe, he shudders at the thought.

FIERCE GALE SWEEPS COAST

From San Diego to British Columbia 70-Mile Gale Sweeps—Shipping Warned in Time to Escape.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 9.—After raging for 14 hours, a fierce gale that swept the coast from San Diego to British Columbia showed signs of abating early today. According to officials of the local weather station the storm spent its force in the early dawn.

In this city the wind blew at the rate of 50 miles an hour last night, while off the heads it reached a velocity of 60 miles. Reports from the Oregon coast stated that the storm assumed almost hurricane proportions there, a 70-mile gale whipping the sea into a succession of mountainous waves.

The storm delayed street car traffic here. Several lines were prostrated. Telegraphic communication throughout California was demoralized.

Reports from points in the Sierra Nevada mountains stated that the snowfall that accompanied the storm in the higher districts was unusually heavy. If the rains and snows continue for two days it is feared the Sacramento, Yuba and Feather rivers will overflow their banks. Twenty inches of snow lies upon the ground at Summit, in the Sierras. A landslide on the Santa Cruz branch of the Southern Pacific has tied up traffic and gangs of laborers have been sent to repair the damage.

Because of the warnings issued by the weather yesterday, it is believed that coast-wise shipping escaped serious damage. Vessels scheduled to clear from San Francisco postponed their departure. Bay craft were given ample opportunity to prepare for the gale.

THREE NORDICA HUSBANDS; THREE ALSO FOR LILLIAN

SCHENECTADY, Dec. 9.—Harriet Leonard Colburn, sister of Lillian Russell and prominent in society in Schenectady, in complaining to friends of the continued notoriety given to the reported engagement and matrimonial affairs of the family, said today:

"Nordica has been married more times than my sister, and I do not see her name forever in print."

This started her friends to looking up the records and they found the contest to stand:

Russell husbands—Harry Braham, Teddy Solomon, Sig. Perugini. Nordica husbands—Frederick A. Gower, Zoltan Doeme, eGeorge W. Young.

Mrs. Colburn's complain grew out of trouble she is having with newspaper men making inquiries regarding the reported engagement of her niece, Dorothy Russell, also a divorcee, to Aeki Hamutrusi, Prince Mutsuhito, nephew of the Mikado.

"These inquiries are just awful," said Mrs. Colburn. "Here the other night it was mentioned three times in one story that I am Lillian Russell's sister. I am five years the elder. I had a voice that was recognized before my sister was heard of. Now I do wish they would let the Russells alone and talk about others."

SWIFT MARINES TO BE BUILT FOR CZAR

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 9.—Contracts are about to be let for two submarines for the Russian navy, which, if the builders' promises are fulfilled, will meet the conditions necessary for the most successful tactical utilization of these craft, viz., the ability to cruise and manoeuvre in company with a battleship fleet.

The builders' specifications call for boats of 613 tons, an over-all length of 166 feet 9 inches and guaranteed speed of 17 1/2 knots on the surface and 11 1/2 knots completely submerged. This speed would enable them to keep company with battleships of the older types at all speeds and with those of the Dreadnought class, except when the latter are steaming under forced draught, usual only when actually engaged.

ANNIDEN, Wash., Dec. 9.—After being constantly for death today, when her friend, Mrs. C. C. Wilson, died, Mrs. Agnes Graham died yesterday afternoon at the age of 70. Mrs. Wilson's funeral services were being held. Mrs. Graham had been in constant attendance upon Mrs. Wilson during her last days and when the end came she was inconsolable. She died in the floor of her home for the time, it is said, she prayed for the Lord. Yesterday her body was interred in the cemetery.

Cost of Electricity

Per week for the average family for heating and cooking

	Breakfast	Baking	Ironing	Dinner	Misc. Day	Summer	Misc. Night	Total
Monday	3/4 kwh.	1 kwh.	0 kwh.	1 1/2 kwh.	1/2 kwh.	1/2 kwh.	0 kwh.	4 kwh.
Tuesday	1 kwh.	0 kwh.	2 1/2 kwh.	1 1/2 kwh.	1/2 kwh.	1 kwh.	0 kwh.	7 kwh.
Wednesday	1 kwh.	2 kwh.	0 kwh.	1 kwh.	1/2 kwh.	1 kwh.	0 kwh.	6 kwh.
Thursday	1 kwh.	0 kwh.	0 kwh.	1 kwh.	1/2 kwh.	1 kwh.	0 kwh.	4 kwh.
Friday	1 kwh.	0 kwh.	0 kwh.	1 kwh.	1/2 kwh.	1 kwh.	0 kwh.	4 kwh.
Saturday	1 kwh.	2 kwh.	0 kwh.	1 kwh.	1/2 kwh.	1 kwh.	0 kwh.	6 kwh.
Sunday	1 kwh.	0 kwh.	0 kwh.	1 kwh.	1/2 kwh.	1 kwh.	0 kwh.	4 kwh.
Total	10 1/2 kwh.	7 kwh.	2 1/2 kwh.	9 kwh.	4 kwh.	7 kwh.	0 kwh.	31 kwh.

Our rate for cooking and heating is 5c per K. W. H., making the cost \$1.55 per week

ROGUE RIVER ELECTRIC CO. MEDFORD, OREGON

KING ALFONSO HAS TO UNDERGO AN OPERATION

MADRID, Dec. 8.—King Alfonso's physician is causing extreme anxiety at court. The king is suffering from a tubercular affection of the inner ear. Dr. Monroe of Bordeaux has performed three slight operations to check this disease. Now a serious operation has become necessary, and the queen is much concerned about the result, in view of the king's weakened constitution.

His tubercular condition undoubtedly was inherited. His father, Alfonso XII, died of tuberculosis, with complications which are also present in the case of Alfonso XIII. The Official Gazette announces that the queen expects an accouchment in April.

GOVERNMENT SEIZES 400 CORDS OF WOOD

BURNS, Or., Dec. 9.—The government has taken 500 cords of Juniper wood that the Hanley Stock company had cut on government land near the "P" ranch for their dredger, at work in Hiltzen swamp. Last winter the company cut about 1500 cords of wood for the dredger, and most of it had been delivered and used before the government agent arrived and took charge of the fuel, but 50 cords were found in the timber. The wood will be disposed of to the highest bidder. In this country Juniper timber has been looked upon as worthless except for posts and firewood, but the government holds that it is timber of value and worth protecting.

HOOD RIVER MAN SELLS AN APPLE FOR DOLLAR

HOOD RIVER, Or., Dec. 9.—The record price for a single apple in the Hood River valley was set yesterday, when N. W. one, a local orchardist, sold a two-pound Wolf River to L. W. Winans for \$1. Mr. Bone raises a great many of the large Wolf River apples and he sold the big ones this year at 50 cents apiece. This one which brought a dollar had been stored away and he had in fact forgotten it. The large apples do not keep as well usually as some of the smaller varieties, but this big one had as yet shown no sign of deterioration. Mr. Winans sent the apple to San Francisco to be placed on exhibition.

"PELL" AND "AGRA" REBEL AGAINST PELLAGRA GERMS

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 9.—Rebelling at the experiments being made upon them by Dr. Pothier at the Charity Hospital, two monkeys, Pell and Agra, inoculated with pellagra germs, broke from their cage last night and went on a rampage. They made a clean sweep of shelves in the library, throwing books everywhere, and invaded the department where white rabbits and guinea pigs are kept for dissection. Here the monkeys pulled plaster from the walls and had a game resembling golf, using the white bits of plaster as balls.

On entering the morgue and seeing the bodies scattered about on the marble slabs the monkeys began to whimper, and an attendant had little trouble in leading them back to the pellagra ward.

AGRICULTURAL EXPERTS SAY NO NEW ORLEANS MOLASSES

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—Inequity is rampant in the agricultural department and the referee board is asked to wipe out the term "New Orleans molasses." It is declared that nothing can be found in the market which bears the least resemblance to what once was known as New Orleans molasses. It is explained that molasses-making processes have been revolutionized and that now three different grades of syrup are made where before but one existed.

As an offset to this contention legal authorities assert that any molasses made in Louisiana should be entitled to the name New Orleans molasses. Manufacturers outside the state seek to do away with that time honored designation, and the trouble comes from this trade rivalry.

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