

BANK CLEARINGS  
TODAY  
\$27,056.81

Important Committees are Assured for Jackson's Delegation

# MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

THE WEATHER  
Stormy tonight and tomorrow.  
The Message of the Flags.  
White—Fair weather.  
Blue—Rain or snow.  
White and blue—Local showers.  
Black triangular—Above white, warmer; below white, colder.  
White with black center—Cold.

FIFTH YEAR.

MEDFORD, OREGON, THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 1911

No. 252.

## MYSTERIOUS ASSAULT CASE CLEARS, SUSPECT LODGED IN CITY JAIL

### IDENTITY OF INJURED MAN NOW KNOWN

Name Is Sidney Pittman—He Arrived in Medford Last Friday With Woman Companion—Came Here From Roseburg—Rock Used in Assault.

### MAN ARRESTED SEEN AT ROOMS OF COUPLE

It is Stated That Robinson, the Suspect, Told People That Woman With Pittman Was His Mother—Police Spend Day Unraveling Mystery Surrounding Affair.

Charles Robinson, 18 years old, was arrested by Chief of Police J. G. Shearer at noon today and lodged in the city jail to await the outcome of the injuries of Sidney Pittman, now lying at the Southern Oregon hospital with a compound fracture of the skull.

Investigation of the affair by the police this morning brought to light the fact that the injured man arrived in Medford last Friday with a woman companion. To A. Dilts, a bartender in a front street saloon, who knew him in Eugene about a year ago, he confided that his wife was with him and that they had just arrived from Roseburg. He asked to be directed to suitable rooms and Dilts recommended a rooming house on South Grape street. At the time Pittman requested paper and envelopes, saying that he wished to write to Roseburg, and while talking produced from an inside pocket several post cards and a small memorandum book.

When searched at the hospital Tuesday morning his pockets were empty.

**Couple Took Rooms.**  
At the South Grape street house, where he said he was from Klamath Falls, the man and woman were given a room. The woman attended to the room herself and until it was vacated and a number of empty whisky bottles were found in it no other person than Pittman or the woman were in it.

Monday evening the man now under arrest appeared and is alleged to have said that the woman was his mother.

**Neighbors Hear Voices.**  
Later that evening, neighbors heard voices at the front of the house, heard a heavy rock, used ordinarily to hold a screen door from slamming, dropped to the sidewalk and upon making an investigation discovered a man, believed to be the prisoner, in the act of tramping out blood stains on the sidewalk to cover them up.

Later that night the night police discovered Pittman lying on the sidewalk near Grape and Main streets, and, thinking him drunk, lodged him in the city jail. The next day he was liberated and was taken to the Southern Oregon hospital by persons who found him wandering aimlessly along South Central avenue. An operation there showed that he had sustained a compound fracture of the skull.

**Man Is Unconscious.**  
Ever since his admittance to the hospital Pittman has been unconscious and unable to talk.

Robinson, who will be held by the police as a suspect, has already been arrested here for petty offenses twice, the last time only gaining his liberty after breaking a window at the Natatorium, by telling Chief Shearer that his mother was here sick and needed what attention he could give her.

Pittman, whose chances of recovery are said to be very slim, was born in Owensboro, Ky. A sister, Mrs. Ida Labar, living in Evansville, Ind., has been communicated with.

The woman believed to have been the one with Pittman at the lodging (Continued on page 3.)

### COLDEST NIGHT IN MANY YEARS IS EXPERIENCED

Thermometer Dropped to 14 Above, Which Was Four Degrees Colder Than Coldest Last Year—Snow Storm Good Thing for Valley, Says O'Gara.

### PLENTY OF MOISTURE IN SOIL FOR COMING YEAR

No End of Present Storm Is Yet in Sight—Weather Man Sends Clear Nights and Cloudy Day—Dawn Was Bright With Promises Which Did Not Materialize.

Wednesday night was the coldest night Medford and the Rogue River valley. The thermometer dropped to 14 above, which is four degrees colder than it was at any time last year.

The present snow storm shows no signs of abating as yet although the sky has cleared a number of times. The day dawned with the sky clear and gave promise of a perfect day. It failed, however, to materialize for soon after the sun was up a great bank of clouds rolled in. The present storm is a splendid thing in the estimation of Professor P. J. O'Gara who states that it is worth a great deal to the fruit crop of the valley. It insures a great deal of moisture for the coming year.

The fog of the past few weeks has been a good thing in holding back the buds and has only had one bad tendency and that is that it has retarded pruning.

No end of the storm is in sight according to the weather man, and although the sky clears occasionally snow is predicted for tonight.

The cold snap last night did considerable damage in the way of snapping water hydrants and plumbers have had a busy day of it.

The streets this afternoon are again slushy but last night and this morning were frozen over, causing many a hasty pedestrian to take a fall.

### THINKS CHARLES IS A SWEDE

At Any Rate Letter Is Sent Commercial Club Which Stumps the Letter Clerk—But Man Is Answered in His Own Tongue.

PASADENA, Jan. 1, 1911.  
—Charles A. Malhaen, Medford: Harmed for jag vordramant fraza hara dant Klimater och landet ar i traeten King Medford vore backsam far angra upplosningar var jag som oder illustrerade bockvrt.  
Hogskollingsfullt,  
E. CARLSON.

In other words, Mr. Carlson, a native of Sweden, would come to the Rogue River valley and make his home here. He wishes to know something of carpenter work, the climate and closes his brief epistle with a request that he be sent an illustrated booklet.

Mr. Malhaen, not to be outdone called up a friend versed in Swedish and answered the man in his own tongue.

And so the work of gaining settlers goes merrily onward.

### First Authentic Pictures of Joseph G. Robin, The Indicted New York Banker.



Joseph G. Robin, the indicted New York banker, whose skyrocket methods caused the suspension of the Northern Bank of New York and its nine branches and the Washington Savings bank, is charged with the alleged theft of \$80,000 from the first named institution. William Travers Jerome, Robin's lawyer, claims that the banker is insane. Robin, whose name originally was Rabinovitch, came to America from Russia about thirteen years ago and after he had learned the English language became a reporter. He speedily abandoned the newspaper business and became a financier. For years he lived in lavish style and was regarded as a millionaire. When arrested he took

### JACKSON COUNTY'S DELEGATION GETS OFF RIGHT

#### FOUR PERSONS BURN TO DEATH

Fire and Explosion in Store Endangers Life of Thirty Persons—Firemen Rescue Five Girls From the Flames.

CONNELLSVILLE, Pa., Jan. 12.—Four persons are believed to have been killed in an explosion and fire in McCory's five and ten-cent store today. There were 30 persons in the store at the time of the explosion, most of them girl employees. It was at first reported that 25 persons had been killed, but the manager asserts that most of those in the building escaped.

According to the management, only four persons known to have been in the building were missing when the fire was controlled shortly after noon. Five girls severely burned were rescued from the building.

Search of the ruins was impossible owing to the intense heat after the fire was controlled, and police and firemen were compelled to wait before endeavoring to find the bodies of those supposed to have been killed.

The damage is estimated at \$100,000.

#### BODY OF YOUNG BOY IS FOUND IN FIELD

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 12.—Police today are endeavoring to establish the identity of the body of a 5-year-old boy found in the outskirts of Albany. It is believed that the lad was murdered. A bag of chocolates and an empty vial were found near the body. The police believe that he was poisoned with carbolic acid.

Perhaps most of your "bad luck" consists in failing to answer the want ads that contain opportunities for you.

#### SHOW POWER IN ORGANIZATION

Certain to Receive Important Committee Assignments—Bill to Make Salmon Netting in Rogue Lawful Will Be Bitterly Opposed.

SALEM, O., Jan. 12.—Jackson county's delegation got off right in the organization of both senate and house and are assured good committee appointments. Senator Von der Hellen got aboard the Selling band wagon just at the critical time and his vote virtually insured Mr. Selling's election as president of the senate. He was the sixteenth senator to join Selling, giving him the requisite majority.

Captain Eggleston came very near being chosen speaker, just how near only those on the inside know. The Thompson forces came very near centering upon Eggleston instead of Rusk, who had previously made a compact with the Eggleston support, agreeing to support Eggleston as second choice. Had it reached a second ballot, Eggleston would have been speaker, and probably would be anyway had it not been for Mulholland's insistence for Rusk.

As it is, Eggleston is not high with the organization as is undoubtedly stated for important committee assignments. Westerland also got aboard the band wagon and expects to be made chairman of the horticultural committee. He has asked for leave of absence for several days. Miss Laura Garrett, whose home is in Ashland, but who has been employed in Medford some time, has been appointed stenographer by Captain Eggleston.

The House interests are in evidence again and Senator Chase will introduce a bill to modify the measure passed by the people at the last election in order to make salmon netting

#### TO GIVE LOCAL MEN PREFERENCE

First Methodist Episcopal Church Will Await Deciding On Plans for New \$25,000 Church Until Local Architects Submit Plans.

Plans for a new \$25,000 church edifice recently proffered to the First Methodist Episcopal church by outside architects have been laid on the table by the members of the committee having the matter in hand.

Another set of plans is expected this week, and they too will be shelved until local architects have been given an opportunity to compete.

The proposed site for the new church has not yet been secured.

#### SALEM MAN'S BODY FOUND ON PRAIRIE

CHEYENNE, Wyo., Jan. 12.—The frozen body of Robert Breyles of Salem, Or., found on the prairie here Tuesday night, is at the morgue today awaiting advices from Salem as to its final disposition. Breyles had been shot and killed, and the coroner's jury, after a cursory investigation, brought in a verdict of murder by parties unknown.

It is known that Breyles was shot while attempting to defend himself, as a fully loaded revolver was found clamped tightly in his hand. Breyles had been in Wyoming only a few days. Little is known concerning the measure received at the polls,

### TRAINED NURSE DAMAGES CASE OF MRS. SCHENK

Says Wife of Poisoned Millionaire Told Her That Fortune Teller Had Predicted His Death and That There Was No Hope for Him—Mrs. Schenk Butted In.

### TELLS STORY OF SEVERAL SUBSTITUTED BOTTLES

Was Not Called When Changes for Worse Came—Doctor Ordered Fresh Medicine Purchased After Hearing Nurse's Story of Wife's Actions.

WHEELING, W. Va., Jan. 12.—On the evening of the fourth day of the illness of John O. Schenk, his wife came into the room where the nurse attending him was staying and said that a fortune teller had informed her that Schenk would die. That was the testimony today of Miss Alma Evans, the nurse who cared for Schenk, first witness today in the trial of Mrs. Laura Schenk for the alleged poisoning of her husband.

"Doesn't that make you feel badly?" the nurse said she asked Mrs. Schenk.

"No, I would rather know," the witness testified Mrs. Schenk replied, Miss Evans testified that before automobiling with Schenk and herself Mrs. Schenk, on October 21, brought her husband a drink of water, which he said tasted peculiarly. Later she said, she was away from the house for an hour. The witness said when she returned she found Schenk violently nauseated. She had not been called, she said, although she had left her telephone number.

Another drink given Schenk from the bottle of drinking water which his wife had opened for him resulted in further nausea, Miss Evans testified. She got another bottle of water and gave the one that had apparently caused Schenk's sickness to Dr. Hipp. The nurse said she had told the doctor she thought it was poisoned.

The testimony of the nurse regarding (Continued on page 3.)

### TO DEEPLY PROBE NATIONAL GUARD

Washington Legislature Will Probably Appoint Committee to Institute Investigation—Guards Disrupted for Some Time.

OLYMPIA, Wash., Jan. 12.—Attempts to probe the affairs of the national guard of Washington took shape today, when Representative Frank P. Goss of King county asked for the appointment of a committee of two senators and three representatives to institute a thorough investigation. It is charged in Goss' resolution that the national guard is in a disrupted and unsettled state. It is charged that Adjutant General Lewelynn is not legally in possession of the office; that funds appropriated for the national guard were used improperly turned over to former Adjutant General Lamping and that he used them for his private benefit. The resolution asserts that Colonel John Kinzey, recently discharged because he is implicated on a report of national guard affairs to the war department, will testify that many of the higher officers are utterly incompetent.

Other charges of a minor nature are also made. The guards have been disrupted ever since Adjutant General Orth Hamilton was discharged when discovered to be short \$75,000, and sent to the penitentiary.

### YOUNG GIRL IS IN HOSPITAL AS RESULT OF JOKE

Pail of Scalding Hot Water Is Thrown Over Her and Skin Grafting May Be Necessary—Attaches No Blame on Water Hurler—Says It Was Joke.

### SAYS HE DID NOT KNOW IT WAS HOT

"Joke" Occurred Near Jacksonville Where Girl Was Employed—Surgeons Say She Will Recover If No Complications Arise—Condition Is Favorable.

Miss M. L. Smith, formerly of Freewater, Umatilla county, where her father now lives, but more recently employed as nurse to the 10-year-old son of John DeRoobam in Jacksonville, is confined at the Southern Oregon hospital suffering from a severely scalded back, which, she says, she received while engaged in a joking altercation with William DeRoobam, a brother of her employer.

Although so severely scalded that she may have to remain in the hospital for a month besides probably having to undergo a skin grafting operation, the young woman refuses absolutely to attach any blame on DeRoobam and at every suggestion to the contrary firmly reiterates the assertion that she and DeRoobam were only joking. Neither DeRoobam, who lives in Jacksonville, nor Mrs. Julian A. Mock, who is alleged to have been a witness to the occurrence, but who is now said to be in Medford, could be found.

According to Miss Smith, she, DeRoobam and Mrs. Mock were in the DeRoobam home on Walker creek near Jacksonville. "A small pail of water was on the store," she said, "and I had turned to leave the room, and I suddenly felt a drop of scalding hot water touch my hand. The next minute the water that had struck me in the back penetrated my clothes and burned me. I called to them that I was scalded and asked them to tear the burning clothes off me.

"When I asked DeRoobam why he had thrown the hot water," she continued, "he told me that he did not know that it was so hot and said that only a moment previously he had been able to immerse his hand in the water."

The accident happened one week ago last Tuesday and the injured girl was not brought to the hospital until last Friday night.

Surgeons who are attending her assert that her back is seriously burned, but that if no complications set in she will recover.

She has been in Medford for almost three months, but has not been to her home for almost a year. Her father will be notified of the accident.

### SNOW WRECKS PHONE SYSTEM

Large Crew of Men Are Rushed to Medford to Work On Interurban Lines—Those in City Are Also Out of Order.

The present snow storm has worked considerable havoc with the local phone system, especially with the interurban lines. The farmers' lines are nearly all down and a large crew of men have been rushed here to repair the lines.

Wednesday and today a number of phones have been out of business in the city. Repair work is being rushed as rapidly as possible.