

FIGHT OVER WILL OF W. S. BARNUM IS STARTED HERE

The testimony of V. J. Emerick was taken today before DeWitt Stevens, county clerk, upon the application of George A. Barnum. The application to take testimony alleges that W. S. Barnum made a gift of approximately \$15,000 in bonds to his son, George A. Barnum, prior to his death. That W. S. Barnum told V. J. Emerick that he had given George A. Barnum some bonds and that as V. J. Emerick is about to leave for the eastern part of the United States his evidence must be taken.

The Emerick further states that his testimony is material to the defense in an action which is about to be commenced by Jessie A. Eldridge, the mother of William Laird Barnum, a minor, to set aside the gift, through Charles W. Reames, the attorney for the minor and Jessie A. Eldridge.

W. S. Barnum died in Medford, Ore., February 25, 1925, leaving as his heirs at law Ertha S. Barnum, his widow; John Barnum and George A. Barnum, sons; and William Laird Barnum, grandson. The latter now deceased.

That W. S. Barnum did not leave a will and when the petition to probate the estate was filed it stated the only heirs of W. S. Barnum were his widow, John Barnum and George A. Barnum, and did not name the grandson, William Laird Barnum.

When Mrs. Eldridge, the guardian of William Laird Barnum, learned that her son was named as an heir, she inquired regarding the same and it was found that the minor had been left out on an heir, and on July 13, 1928, an order was made amending the petition to probate the estate and named William Laird Barnum as an heir.

The petition to probate the estate stated that there was no real property whatever in the estate. That the probable value of the estate was \$11,000.

It is reported by attorneys for the plaintiff that considerable investigation has been made in regard to the property left by W. S. Barnum, and it is believed he left a large estate. Investigation developed that on the date of Mr. Barnum's death, a deed from W. S. Barnum to his wife of all of the real property owned by W. S. Barnum was recorded and that deed had been left in the First National bank with instructions to deliver the same to his wife, the grantee of the deed, upon the death of W. S. Barnum.

On July 13, 1928, the inventory of the estate was filed showing bonds and cash in the estate, not including the real property, to the amount of \$91,806.81.

ROTARIANS ARE TOLD HOW GRANTS PASS KEEPS COOL

A delayed report of the International Rotarian convention held in Minneapolis a month ago was given today at a luncheon at the Hotel Medford by President Jack Carle, Medford delegate to the meeting which included club men from 20 countries, 700 representatives being present from chapters outside the United States and Canada.

There are more than 100,000 Rotarians ranging from kids and babies to common laborers included in membership clubs throughout the world, said the speaker. Rotary was originated over 23 years ago by Paul Harris, of Chicago, who did not attend the convention but sent a written message.

Another feature of today's program was a stunt by Howard Schreffel, Perry Crawford, George Hunt and Jack Kery, Grants Pass Rotarians. The latter was asked to give a recipe for keeping cool when the thermometer mounts to 100 degrees. One of the group held a small cake of ice which melted as fast as the heated club members looked on.

On the committee to arrange a "party" entry in the American Legion parade August 4 the following men will serve: Al Hayden, Leuns Humphrey and Clyde Eekin.

Visiting Rotarians at today's luncheon included Johnny Johnston, of Riverside, Cal.; Hal McNeil and Ned Harlan, Ashland; Dr. William Bagley, of Duluth, Minn., who is spending part of the summer at his summer home at Takot, La. Schuyler, Van Ness, Cal.; Jack Kery, Grants Pass. Other guests were Prof. Isaac Corn, of the University of South Dakota at Grand Forks; Bernard Roberts and Dr. B. L. Lagason, Medford; George Pierce, Grants Pass; Charles Bagley and Don Macrae, both of Duluth, Minn. The latter is the state champion 220-yard runner among Minnesota high school athletes.

E. C. Corn, chairman of the program, announced that next Tuesday's entertainment will be furnished by Rotarian kids.

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MEDFORD WOMEN AROUSED OVER 'POISON' PENMAN

A "poison pen" fiend has been operating in this city for several weeks, creating considerable of a furore, by dropping notes on lawns in which slanders about a number of well-known residents is written in long hand.

About a dozen of the notes have been found, all in the same script, and all of the same general tenor, some reciting with vicious obscenity, all containing hints of romantic escapades and alleged drinker proclivities of certain ladies and gentlemen.

The first edition of the scandalous note was found about a month ago on a lawn on West Main street. It contained the information a well-known woman had gone to Portland to "see her sweetie."

The next edition contained the name of the purported "sweetie"—a very prominent Medford churchman.

The "spite notes" then began to appear with more frequency, but always on a different lawn. Their contents mostly concerned women, but now and then a gentleman was accused of being unkindly flirtatious. People began to pick up pieces of paper on the lawns, with great expedition, even the most of them proved to be merely innocent scraps of paper.

Traps have been set for the literary gossip, but so far no clues have been found. None of the persons have been sent through the mails. The authorities, owing to the victims shunning publicity, have not been asked to take a hand.

The activities of the note writer are attributed to spite, and a highly developed bump of maliciousness is said.

Local anglers who have been worried over the lack of water for the fish ladder at the Gold Ray dam, will be glad to learn that a full load of water was turned back into the ladders yesterday afternoon.

Fish immediately began using the ladders and several salmon were noted ascending the dam steps. The fish ladder at the Gold Ray dam, following the heat of yesterday with a maximum of 105 at 5 o'clock in the afternoon, which was one degree less than the maximum of Sunday; a very light breeze arising early this afternoon, together with cloudiness arising in the hour for a few in was blowing, which would break today's heat that threatened to at least equal that of yesterday.

However, many persons thought that today's maximum would be higher, as it was claimed by a number that street and home thermometers this morning and forenoon showed it to be three degrees higher than at the same time yesterday.

LOCAL FORECAST GIVES NO HOPE QUICK RELIEF

Although fair weather, continued high temperatures and low humidity is forecast for tonight and tomorrow, following the heat of yesterday with a maximum of 105 at 5 o'clock in the afternoon, which was one degree less than the maximum of Sunday; a very light breeze arising early this afternoon, together with cloudiness arising in the hour for a few in was blowing, which would break today's heat that threatened to at least equal that of yesterday.

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The heat of the past two days has somewhat slowed up business, and out down auto tourist travel temporarily, as the majority of motor vacationists have apparently looked up at cooler places in the hills and along streams until normal temperature comes again.

The soda fountains continue to do a record business, and streams of local cars continue to be headed toward the hills or the river and other streams, especially in the afternoon and evening. The main destination of the local cars was for the various swimming holes of the smaller streams, with the Applegate section leading in popularity. Hundreds of local people went swimming in the Applegate river from early last evening to after midnight. The commercial swimming pools of Medford and Ashland and the Hot Springs are also doing a land office business.

Local anglers who have been worried over the lack of water for the fish ladder at the Gold Ray dam, will be glad to learn that a full load of water was turned back into the ladders yesterday afternoon.

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JAWGE W. MADDOX RUNS AFOUL OF SWEEPING LAW

George Washington Maddox, the welder of the broom and benches at the Nats Slusher barber shop on Main street, ran afoul of the law this morning and "done had a writ served on mah person."

It was a seminar off the sidewalk in front of the barber shop at 7 o'clock when a young fellow caught him, well-lambed violating the ordinance against defiling the gutters with debris, in the daytime.

In the presence of the law, Mr. Maddox emitted one of his hearty laughs, and ran into the barber shop and locked the door. Not to be outwitted, Officer Pritch showed a notice through the mail slot in the door, enjoining him to appear at the police station.

This Mr. Maddox did, pleading ignorance of the law, and offering as an alibi that "they all does." He was further informed that a \$10 fine would be about right. This was too much.

"But," moaned Mr. Maddox, "dat am a right smart kettle of fish, betw Ah pays, you-all ewine to go to de highest cot."

Mr. Maddox denied flatly the accusation of the arresting officer that he had been saucy.

"I got mah solemn promise he would be more careful in the future about his hours of sweeping," Mr. Maddox was allowed to go.

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ASHLAND FACES A WATER SHORTAGE

Caused by the continued hot weather and the heavy water consumption resulting therefrom, the city of Ashland today placed stringent water restrictions in effect to conserve the city's water supply, which yesterday was found to be surprisingly low. The restrictions will probably be in effect indefinitely.

The Ashland reservoir last evening was found to be only one-third full, with the stream of incoming water materially decreased as a result of the mountain snows having all melted away. This amount of water left Ashland practically without fire protection should any large blaze break out and the restriction measure was immediately resorted to today.

Water users can only irrigate these times weekly and on Sunday afternoons and forenoons during certain hours. The city has been divided into two sections in order that only one section can irrigate at a time. The restrictions, it is feared by Ashland residents, are so drastic that lawns may dry up during the summer heat.

The water flowing at present into the Ashland reservoir comes from mountain springs, which are expected to be able to supply enough water if the restrictions are religiously observed.

JACKSON COUNTY ALMOST FREE OF FOREST FIRES

The continued heat, which is increasing the forest fire hazard daily, finds the Center national forest singularly free from fires for several days past, but yesterday continued to keep vigil in the district state fire warden and his crews of fire fighters quite busy with fire fires in different sections on state land, in addition to keeping ten men patrolling the big fire northwest of Hill in the Fruit Growers Supply company territory, on which the company has over 300 acres of work.

The fire free on state land in this district yesterday included two in the Rose creek section, which were all reported under control this morning. One of these fires was near the Rose Creek schoolhouse and burned over 10 acres of brush, and the other also burned over much brush along the branch of Neil creek.

Another fire burned over 320 acres of brush and vines back of Rocky Asme in the Dry creek section. At Long Branch, this side of Trail, there was a small fire in brush and grass. The fifth fire was caused by the old fire above Medford on Sunday, which was thought to have been extinguished by yesterday morning, breaking out again and burning over five additional acres before it was under control in a few hours.

The only forest fire in the Center national forest for several days past took place Saturday and Sunday in the Little Applegate river district near Lick creek, in an old burn, which burned over about three acres among trees 14 years old before coming under control.

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TOURIST CHASED BY A MAD WOLF NEAR UNION CRK.

Henry Frederick of this city reports that last Sunday a few miles north of Central Point, while motoring, he came upon a tourist who reacted to him a thrilling tale of being chased for seven or eight miles in the hills this side of Chiloquin by a wolf that had gone crazy from the heat. Frederick did not learn the man's name or his home town.

The traveler said that he was traveling along the road through a wooded district Sunday when he noticed that he was being vigorously pursued by a beast which occasionally gave short yips and was frothing at the mouth. He thought nothing of it until he again looked back and saw that the animal had gained upon him, and there was no doubt about its viciousness, and its purpose. The driver stepped on the gas and went full speed ahead with the crazed creature in hot pursuit.

As the race waged the maddened wolf made repeated leaps at the auto and, according to Frederick, the marks of its sharp claws were visible on the side of the car.

ALBURTUS TONIGHT! THE MIRACLE MAN HE BURNS A WOMAN ALIVE! Never Before Such Mystery. Also CHARLIE MURRAY and LOUISE FAZENDA in 'VAMPING VENUS' A Comedy Sensation. No Advance in Prices. Matinee Adults 25c, Evening Adults 35c, Kids a Dim.

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