

SEATTLE WOMAN RECEIVES BOY OF POISONING!

On the Issue of Americanism There Can Be No Compromise

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TWO CENTS IN SEATTLE

'Story'

Some Will Call It Luck Others Predestination It May Have Been the Hymn Anyhow, All Ended Well

BY HAL ARMSTRONG

Some might call it luck, others predestination, but Mrs. Roby C. Brown, who resides at 4536 Lucile st., attributes it to her.

Mrs. Brown and several of her family were motoring home from a ranch near Olympia. The road was bad. It had been raining. There was a particularly treacherous bit of highway to be traveled—a couple of hundred yards of it, where the road narrows down between an abrupt, perpendicular wall on one side and on the other a precipitous cliff overhanging a chasm.

To make driving extra hazardous here, the soil is clayey and, when wet, as slippery as grease.

The Brown flivver had been acting queerly for days; on this trip it was incoercible, snorting, bucking, balking, wilting. Its worst behavior was reserved for the worst place in the road.

Mrs. Brown was at the steering wheel. She is an unusually careful driver, for a woman, and knows the difference between high, low, spark, backfire, gasoline and side-curtains. She took deliberate aim at the wheel-cut on the inside of the road nearest the perpendicular wall and slowly back the grade.

AINLY GROPE FOR WORDS OF HYMN The flivver stepped gingerly forward, picking its way with precision between thank-you-ma'ams, mud puddles and other uncertain hazards until the narrowest, slipperiest, most treacherous point was reached. Then, with a heavy lurch, it slewed and skidded nearly to the brink.

Mrs. Brown handled her levers masterfully, without fear of panic. She was trying to recall the words of the hymn. The air she clearly remembered.

With another lurch the car dislodged a huge stone that dropped down the side of the canyon. Scarcely later, it seemed two minutes, the boulder was heard crashing on the chasm floor. Still Mrs. Brown groped for the words of the song and minded her driving.

The rear wheels spun in the greasy mud, stopped, started again, stopped and the car settled back. Slowly it was slipping towards the precipice. There was no possibility of getting out. It required but the movement of an arm or foot to have sent the auto plunging to the bottom.

That the danger of tragedy was not troubling Mrs. Brown. She was searching her memory for the song. It was hardly possible, as the auto settled, that the driving wheels would find a footing, a bit of gravel or a handful of sand in that oily layer of yellow clay. But another lurch towards the chasm left two wheels hanging in midair. A breath would have sent it over.

THE MIRACLE HAPPENED: THE FLIVVER WENT ON The story was first told recently at a church where weekly experience meetings are held. Mrs. Brown is an ardent Christian. She believes in miracles.

The auto paused there, overhanging death. Its engine was dead. No one dared move. None breathed. Then the words of the hymn came to Mrs. Brown.

In a clear voice she began to sing. No matter what the words were; it is a hymn well known, proclaiming the omnipotence of one all powerful to save. The wheels of the auto started. The car slid ahead, back into the narrow road, bumped into the wheel ruts and was on its way.

Mrs. Brown ceased singing. She knows it was neither luck nor predestination, nor the words of the song that saved them, but Something Else.

MILK TO STAY AT 13 CENTS Milk prices for January will probably remain at 13 cents a quart, delivered to the consumer, Dr. F. E. Smith, secretary of the city milk commission, announced today.

A slight reduction in the wholesale 100-pound price is not expected to affect the price to the public, Dr. Smith said. The milk commission was created by Mayor Caldwell to regulate milk prices in the city.

Clara Smith Hamon Suffers Collapse WILSON, Okla., Dec. 28.—Suffering from a nervous collapse, Clara Smith Hamon, charged with murder in connection with the death of Jake L. Hamon, millionaire oil king and politician, was recuperating at the home of her sister, Mrs. W. V. Walling, here today.

Weather Tonight and Wednesday, rain; fresh southeasterly winds. Temperature Last 24 Hours Maximum, 53. Minimum, 47. Today noon, 50.

INVADE WHISKY TOWN

U. S. AGENTS SWEEP DOWN ON WISCONSIN SALOONS

CITY-WIDE WAGE DROP PLOT SEEN

Proposed Municipal Cut Exposed for Wholesale Slash, Forecast

"A general reduction of wages throughout Seattle industries" This is declared to be the hidden aim of the Thomson ordinance calling for a 15 per cent slash in the salaries paid to all civil service employees of the city government.

Men so close to the inner circle of councilmanic deliberations that they cannot be quoted declared Tuesday that the Thomson ordinance was intended as the starting point for a general reduction of wages here.

HOPE IT WILL START 'AVALANCHE' Backers of the Thomson bill are hoping that it will be the small rock that will start the avalanche of universal wage reductions. It is considered, among a certain class of employers, as a capital piece of propaganda, according to city hall observers.

The 15 per cent reduction proposed by Thomson, and now before the finance committee of the council, will affect over 5,000 workers.

City employees declare that they will fight the cut to the last ditch. "The only cut will be made in the salary of Councilman Thomson," a defiantly declared, "and then it will be a 100 per cent reduction—at the next election."

BARELY GET ENOUGH TO LIVE ON NOW Superintendent of Public Utilities Carl Reeves pointed out that the majority of the civil service employees were barely getting enough to support their families at the present time.

"The men didn't get a raise until near the date of the armistice," Reeves said. "This was after prices had soared for more than a year. Now they want to cut their wages before the profiteers are forced to cut prices."

The Thomson ordinance would cut the salaries and wages of all civil service employees of the city. It would affect all members of the fire, police and railway departments, and the workers at the city hall, approximately 5,000 in all.

REDUCTION JUSTIFIED THOMSON SAYS "The ordinance would save \$500,000 in the railway department alone," Thomson declared. "I have made no inquiry as to the savings in the police, fire and street departments."

Thomson stated his belief that the reduction was justified so far as the street car employees are concerned. He said that he believed that all civil service employees of the city should be treated alike.

The preamble of the proposed ordinance states that the cost of living is declining, that large numbers of men are out of work and that the changed conditions of living justify a reduction in the wages of city workers.

The bill, if passed by the council, will go into effect March 31, 1921. DETECTIVES ASK THOMSON TO CUT HIS OWN PAY City detectives Tuesday started a round robin to be presented to City Councilman R. H. Thomson, asking him whether or not he would reduce his own wages 15 per cent if his ordinance for a 15 per cent pay reduction for all civil service employees went into effect.

Patrolmen and detectives crowded around the round robin in haste to sign it.

Start New Business With The New Year Do you want a grocery business or a partnership in a garage or any other business in Seattle? You will probably find listed on Classified page today just what you want.

Or tell your "want" there and be sure of getting replies that will satisfy.

16-Year-Old Father Up for Grand Larceny

Louie Arnold, 16, and married, with a wife that is soon to be a mother, is to be arraigned in superior court Tuesday afternoon, charged with grand larceny.

Will the court sentence him, in case he pleads guilty, as the prosecutor's office believes he will, or will the court give him another chance?

That is the question which is being asked by persons interested in the case.

Arnold's wife is also 16 years old. The couple was married two years ago. Now the husband is accused of having passed a forged check for \$30, obtaining \$5 in merchandise and \$25 in cash.

If Arnold is adjudged a juvenile because of his years instead of a man because of his experience, sentence may be suspended.

RUSS TRADE IS UP TO HARDING

Is Being Urged to Open Business Gates

BY RAYMOND CLAPPER MARION, Ohio, Dec. 28.—Restoration of trade with Russia is being urged on President-elect Harding by many of his influential advisers, and is being seriously considered as one of the proposed policies of the incoming administration.

The reported cancellation by soviet Russia of millions of dollars worth of contracts with American firms to-day creates the Russian question to the front rank of problems.

Herbert Hoover, Nicholas Murray Butler and others who were in Marion recently, urged upon Harding the necessity of opening up the latent wealth of Russia. Until this is done, they declare, the economic turmoil of Europe and the United States will continue.

Harding, however, has no sympathy with the soviet government, it is said, and is opposed to doing anything which would extend its power.

Straus, of New York, conferred here with Harding today about the aspiration of American Jewry for the appointment of one of their faith to be ambassador to Germany when diplomatic relations are resumed.

Stribus is a leading Jewish philanthropist, a former ambassador to Turkey and was a member of President Roosevelt's cabinet.

Straus told Senator Harding that it was the opinion of many prominent Jews, backed up by word from Germany, that the wave of anti-Semitic feeling that has swept Germany since the revolution there, might be overcome if the United States would send a Jew to Berlin as the diplomatic representative when peace is declared.

Senator McCumber, of North Dakota, arrived today and conferred with Harding about the senate's spending program. The senate-elect explained to him that as the appropriations to be made by the present congress will be carried well into his administration, he felt the republican party should be economical.

ETHERIDGE HELD IN MINNEAPOLIS Charge Portland Bond Deficit \$100,000 MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Dec. 28.—John E. Etheridge, president of bond dealer of Portland, Ore., Tacoma and Seattle, Wash., was held by police here today on information from Sheriff Thuriburt of Portland.

SEATTLE TO BE SERVED 500 B. T. U.

Public Service Commission Concedes Slight Compromise to City

OLYMPIA, Dec. 28.—Following the open hearing held in Seattle a week ago, the public service commission yesterday fixed a minimum standard of gas for Seattle of 500 British thermal units.

This is virtually the standard that was demanded by the Seattle Lighting company.

Due to plant conditions, the standard for Spokane was fixed at not less than 520 or more than 540 B. T. U's. The minimum thermal standard for Tacoma was placed at 450 B. T. U., and the maximum was fixed at 475.

All standards fixed were declared to be temporary adjustments for the purpose of making a more thorough investigation of the effects of a reduced thermal standard of gas.

The 500 B. T. U. standard permitted the Seattle Lighting company slightly higher than the quality of gas that has been served there in the past two months, but it is almost 100 heat units below the old standard.

The maximum for Seattle was placed at 550 B. T. U's.

Further provisions of the commission's order follow: "It is ordered that these standards be and remain effective on and after January 1, 1921, and until the further order of the commission, the commission expressly retaining jurisdiction in this case for the purpose of receiving further evidence, making further tests and taking such other action in the matter as may be found necessary.

"It is further ordered, that in all cases where the change in the thermal standard may necessitate the adjustment or readjustment of consumers' appliances, said gas companies are directed and ordered to maintain a sufficient corps of competent employees to promptly and satisfactorily adjust all appliances requiring adjustment.

"It is further ordered that the Seattle Lighting company, immediately upon service of a copy of this order proceed to gradually increase the British thermal unit content in such way as to afford the least inconvenience possible to consumers and to be furnishing gas of a heating value as prescribed above on January 1, 1921."

CONSUMERS HERE FORCED GAS COMPROMISE

That the public service commission was compelled to compromise on the gas standard permitted to the Seattle Lighting Co. on account of the overwhelming number and vigor of protests made by consumers here was a declaration of City Attorney Thomas Kennedy Tuesday.

"Tacoma consumers will suffer from a 450 B. T. U. standard because they did not protest at the public hearing held here last week," Kennedy asserted.

Seattle's temporary standard of heat units is well below the average throughout the country, Kennedy pointed out.

The B. T. U. for Tuesday were 471, according to the records of the city chemist. The day following the public service commission hearing here, quality of the gas dropped 35 points.

Kennedy, in commenting on the recent ruling of the public service commission, quoted from his brief, just filed in the supreme court, attacking the \$1.50 tariff of the Seattle Lighting Co. "If the feeling of 'sympathy' between the commission and the gas company becomes more pronounced, we may expect soon to see a situation arise whereby, whenever the gas company's 'mouse' is stepped on, the public service commission's 'cat' will walk in sympathy."

Wise Wives Will Want to Read—



HELPFUL words in crucial marriage problems written by the "Happiest Wife in Filmland" especially for The Star, in eight articles entitled:

"Wisdom for Wives" By Florence Vidor Screen Celebrity

Starts Today on Page 9

SLASH PRICES IN PORTLAND

Heavy Reduction Made in Men's Clothing

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 28.—Slashing prices, Portland department stores launched their "January clearance sales" today.

Men's clothing prices received the heaviest cuts, ranging from 30 to 60 per cent. One establishment advertised every suit and overcoat in the store for \$36, claiming that the wholesale price of some of the garments was as high as \$55.

The crowds in the local department stores today equalled those of the pre-Christmas rush days, store managers said.

NEW STREET CAR TOKENS IN TOWN

Seattle's new street car tokens made their debut Tuesday.

More than 150,000 of the bright silver discs, constituting the first delivery of the "three-far-quarters," made their appearance in the offices of the railway department.

It is expected that the work of refunding old tokens for new will commence Wednesday at the street railway headquarters.

Cardinal Gibbons Gets Night's Rest

BALTIMORE, Dec. 28.—Cardinal Gibbons, who is ill at the home of Robert T. Shriver at Union Mills, slept better last night than at any time since he became indisposed about three weeks ago.

WIDE OPEN VILLAGE IS 'ATTACKED'

75 Federal Operatives End Joy Days in Hurley Town

HURLEY, Wis., Dec. 28.—A small army of prohibition agents swooped down on Hurley at noon today and started a widespread cleanup of alleged illicit liquor traffic.

Seventy-five agents, led by J. H. Hannan, arrived from Chicago and immediately started serving 59 warrants issued for arrest of members of the alleged whisky ring.

Business in the "widest open town in the North woods" came to a stop as the agents deployed down the wide streets, their hands on their revolvers ready for trouble.

The band of whisky runners who had vowed to keep the place "a man's town for real men" were apparently taken completely by surprise and no opposition was met by the federal agents.

TWAS PARADISE FOR LUMBERJACKS This town, noted throughout four states as the lumberjacks' paradise, has a population of about 6,000. Many Kentuckians, driven from their moonshining operations in the hills of their native state, have settled around here and taken up their moonshining work, federal agents claim.

Michigan's famous iron range is just across the county line and between the lumberjacks and the miners, the moonshiners did a heavy business.

Dance halls of "character" and saloons of "class" lined the main street.

Boozelets and furo were alleged to have flourished without opposition. Drug stores, groceries, and even blacksmith shops, were dispensing the illicit liquor.

Small groups of interested spectators gathered on the street corners and watched the federal agents at their work. Arrangements had been made by the federal officers to remove their prisoners from Hurley immediately for fear an effort might be made to obtain their release forcibly.

TOWN WAS READY FOR NEW YEAR Fifty "soft drink" saloons were raided and their doors closed. Most of the proprietors were arrested.

The raids were conducted rapidly and few, if any, of the alleged liquor law violators had time to escape or cover up anything. The town was running wide open in preparation for a hilarious greeting of the New Year.

A reporter last night succeeded in buying a good mixture of port wine and "white mule" for \$2 a quart.

THREE VICTIMS OF BOOTLEG IN SAN FRANCISCO

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 28.—With two men dead and another dying from drinking bottle whisky, it became known here today that saloons have been operating in more or less wide-open fashion for several weeks. Drinks have been sold openly over the bar, as in pre-prohibition days.

The dead are: Corp. J. H. Durhan, of the army supply corps, and Dan Shanahan, otherwise unidentified. The dying man was found unconscious in Washington square last night. "Whisky poisoning" was the verdict of physicians in the three cases.

FIUME IS REPORTED CAPTURED

Forces of d'Annunzio Giving Way as Veterans Cut Thru Defenses

ROME, Dec. 28.—Wreathed in smoke from burning forests and exploding mines, Fiume today neared surrender to Italian soldiers.

At 10 a. m. today (Tuesday) regular troops had drawn a tight line around three sides of the city. Swarming thru barricades and slashing wire entanglements, the soldiers edged their way thru crooked streets until they had undisputed possession of a number of important structures.

Premier Giolitti was informed by Gen. Cavaglia, commanding the regulars, that he could expect occupation of the city this afternoon. He reported progress of his troops impeded by d'Annunzio's tactics of burning bridges and streets and by sniping, but said his men had occupied several important centers in the city.

Out in the harbor dreadnoughts and lesser craft trained their guns on Fiume, ready to support the land forces if necessary. Navy officers thus far have refrained from bombarding the city except for a few shells thrown on the barracks of Fiume legionnaires.

Cavaglia's carbiniers found use for their war-time training. They were forced to advance against machine gun and snipers' fire, to break thru barbed wire entanglements crisscrossing the streets. The opposition melted away before the steady advance of Cavaglia's troops.

SCORES OF WOUNDED TAKEN TO HOSPITALS Scores of wounded were taken aboard vessels in the harbor and carried across the Adriatic to permanent hospitals. The regulars were compelled to withhold their fire except in extreme cases, but their advance continued.

From refugees it was learned that d'Annunzio had many bitter enemies within the city. They objected to the manner of the legionnaires, who, they said, treated Fiume as a conquered city and gave the civilians no recognition.

The poet's troops were accused of mining many buildings as well as streets and bridges.

The government prepared for harsh punishment of d'Annunzio's assistants. Fifteen years of imprisonment as "traitors" will be meted out to the poet's followers, Premier Giolitti declared. He informed a parliamentary commission that Gen. Cavaglia had issued a manifesto demanding capitulation without further opposition. He announced that the Rapallo treaty, which settled the Adriatic boundaries, was a national necessity and that those opposing it must be considered traitors.

D'Annunzio's wide experience during the great war was exemplified at Fiume in the construction of the city's defenses. The mines destroying roads and bridges and impeding the progress of the regulars, the barbed wire entanglements, the nests of machine guns and the location of snipers in steeples were planned from his observations over the Italian and enemy lines.

Fiume was more of a fortress than a residential city. Its citizens were beginning to feel the blockade and the wreckage in the city streets added to their demoralization.

The poet was said to have suppressed ruthlessly any attempt of citizens to oppose his program. That the commandant was contending with opposition within the camp was shown by a rumor that Mayor Gigante sought a parley with Gen. Cavaglia, commanding the regulars.

Dr. Belasich, former councilman of Fiume, was reported to have escaped from prison and fled to Abuzia, where he declared the legionnaires were treating the city as a conquered municipality, with no regard for the rights of its people.

D'Annunzio's decree militarizing all city employees met with resistance, he said, and 160 leaders were arrested. Similar reports were brought out by former Mayor Zanella, who was downcast over the city's plight.

CHOCOLATE PRESENT NEARLY FATAL

Mrs. Carrie Booth, Named in Divorce Case, Reports Attempt on Life

Her suspicions aroused by their appearance, Christmas chocolates, containing, according to City Chemist Jacobson, some sort of poisonous salts, were brought for examination Tuesday by Mrs. Carrie Booth, who lives at the Vega apartments, 1618 Terry ave.

Had Mrs. Booth eaten any of the candy, she would have been badly, perhaps fatally, burned, Jacobson said. Mrs. Booth stated that she had no suspicion as to the sender of the package, which she received thru the mails Monday at Wing's cafeteria, where she is employed as a waitress, she said.

The chocolates were originally put up in a 14-ounce box by a local candy manufacturer.

POISONING JOB WAS CRUDE ONE The injection of the poison into the candy was a crude job. That the confections had been tampered with was easily detectable. Each piece was mashed and crushed and discolored by the coating of mercurial salts. The poison had been stuffed into the chocolates.

It was with one of these that Jacobson made his test. He liquified a small part of the yellowish substance and placed it in a glass with a piece of copper. This was heated. After the liquid had come to a boil, Jacobson poured it off. The piece of copper was coated with mercury, and reflected like a mirror.

Mrs. Booth hurried from the building after delivering the poisoned chocolates to Jacobson, as she said she had to be at work at 11 o'clock.

DIVORCE SUIT FOLLOWS ALENATION FIGHT Mrs. Booth is being sued for divorce by Donald H. Booth. Their marital troubles were first made public several weeks ago when Mrs. Booth brought suit for \$50,000 against Mrs. Valeria Dwyer, milliner in the Hotel Frye building, charging alienation of her husband's affections. Soon after that Booth entered his divorce suit.

He said he had been a kind and indulgent husband and had tried to save the marriage. But his wife had refused to keep house, nagged him, caused his arrest on an assault complaint which was later dismissed and generally harassed him.

She answered that she was forced to work for a living and that she was capable of earning per \$100 a month alimony.

She also demanded that he be forced to pay her divorce expenses. Valeria Dwyer was named by Mrs. Booth in this answer.

SAYS OTHER WOMAN SHOWERED GIFTS ON HIM Mrs. Booth stated that from the time she married Booth in Victoria, B. C., on October 15, 1915, they lived lovingly, peacefully and harmoniously until January 1, 1920, when she charged Mrs. Dwyer with forcing her attention on Booth.

She alleged Mrs. Dwyer bestowed "numerous costly presents and gifts on her husband, gave him valuable suits, clothes, silk pajamas, silk hose, silk nighties, costly hats, expensive shoes, silk shirts, elegant ties, and even a Packard automobile."

"Mrs. Dwyer is a mature widow of 50 years, used to the ways of the world, while my husband is 30, unsophisticated, and unused to the world," Mrs. Booth charged. "She vamped and allured my husband by flattery and induced him to take her for auto rides and to expensive cafes, where she contributed to the bills."

TOLD WIFE HE HAD LOST ALL LOVE FOR HER Booth then told her he had lost all love for her, Mrs. Booth said. In "another court document filed after Mrs. Booth's answer to Booth's original suit, the husband charged that she was not his legal wife. He alleged that she had married him within six months after she had been divorced from a man named Laird, in Clallam county, Washington.

Booth also said that they had been married in Victoria in an effort to dodge the six-months prohibition of marriage after divorce.

George Olson and Pierce Loneragan are Mrs. Booth's attorneys, while Philip Tworoger represents Booth.

After a hurried examination Tuesday, Jacobson said he was not able to determine the exact nature of the salts, but said he was satisfied they were poisonous. Police are withholding action in the case pending the outcome of Jacobson's complete examination.