BY CARRIER
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THE TACOMA TIMES.

INDEPENDENT IN
ALL THINGS

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WHIRLED IN MID AIR BY REVOLVING BELT

Terrible Accident to Grover Ashcroft at Cannon Plant---May Die

While working at his regular occupation yesterday afternoon, Grover Ashcroft, of 2411½ Pacific avenue, was caught by a belt at the Carman manufacturing establishment, on Puyallup avenue. His clothes were torn from his body as he was whirled in midair. One foot was crushed so that it may have to be amputated, and the large bone of the lower right leg was broken just above the ankle. The right hip joint was also broken, and his arms were almost wrenched from his body. His head was frightfully cut and bruised. Eye witnesses say he escaped instant death miraculously. When released from his awful situation he still had strength left to raise his arms to his head, revealing the great holes immediately under the shoulders. The poor fellow was conveyed to St. Joseph's hospital in the police ambulance, which responded immediately to the call. This morning the physician at the hospital said the injured man was in a serious condition. His injuries may prove fatal.

RESIGNED

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 25.—Consul General Hughes, at Coburg, Germany, has resigned and the place will be filled by Henry Sayler, at present consul at Dawson, Yukon Territory. The secretary of state declines to discuss the resignation. Some time ago charges were filed against Hughes, but almost at the same time a press dispatch from Berlin stated that the cause was of a family nature. Sayler, his successor, is from Pennsylvania.

BODY IS SHIPPED

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—Brief funeral services were held at noon today at Senator Hoar's residence previous to the shipment of Mrs. Hoar's body to Massachusetts. President Roosevelt was among those who attended.

HILL TO BE APPOINTED

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 25.—It is announced that Professor John Hill of Connecticut will be appointed consul at Grayson, Nicaragua.

PANAMA IS RECOGNIZED

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 25.—An official announcement was received by the state department this morning from the London embassy that Great Britain had formally recognized the new republic of Panama. The state department also received a consular report from Gudger, Panama that the volunteer department of Cauca province, Colombia, had been disbanded.

COLLISION IN STOCK YARDS

CHICAGO, Dec. 25.—Blinded by a blizzard, a Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago passenger train crashed into a Chicago & Milwaukee freight this morning at the southern limits of the stockyards. The caboose was telescoped and the locomotive demolished. Frank Boothwick was probably fatally hurt, S. Stacker, the fireman, and George Longwise, freight conductor, serious injured, and Engineer Whitmore had both legs broken. Several passengers were slightly hurt.

BASEBALL

Baseball talk is already beginning to be heard in hotel lobbies and about the cigar stands. The prospects of Tacoma having a team next year are good, but of which league is a question.

Mique Fisher has been in the city with a view to bringing a team here, and President Lucas and D. E. Dugdale, of the Pacific National league, were in Tacoma Wednesday looking over the situation.

"About $8,000 would be required to start a new team here," remarked a baseball enthusiast yesterday. "New grounds will have to be secured and the buildings put up. The old park has been put out of business by the grading of a street at the side of it. The question of which league will put in a team here will probably be cleared away when the coast league directors meet in San Francisco January 2."

MASONS INSTALL LODGE OFFICERS

The officers of Fairweather lodge, No. 82, F. & A. M., were installed in the Masonic hall last night by the M. W. G. M., Chas. D. Atkins. There was a large attendance of members and all enjoyed the session. The presentation speech of W. A. Fairweather was the finest ever delivered in a Masonic hall.

Fairweather lodge has enjoyed a very prosperous year, and the new Masonic year starts with very good prospects. The new officers are all young men, with the interest of the fraternity at heart. The following officers were installed by the grand master:

W. M.—John D. Morris.
S. W.—D. W. Perry.
J. W. —I. E. Hoska.
Treasurer—W. D. Robertson.
Secretary—A. F. Hoska.
S. D.—James J. Glen.
J. D.—John Ellis Gallagher.
Marshal—Thomas Desmond.
Chaplain—W. C. P. McGovern.
S. S.—Jay J. Foster.
J. S.—C. G. W. Abramson.
Tyler—J. C. Weatherred.

After the installation, P. G. M. W. A. Fairweather presented the retiring W. M., W. C. P. McGovern, with a fine Masonic charm from the members of the lodge.

CHRISTMAS AT THE CAPITAL

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 25.—Christmas was celebrated quietly here today. The president spent a great deal of time with his family. There were no guests at the White House.

A heavy rain has been falling all day.

At the Australian and German embassies there was a most elaborate observance of the day.

M. C. Conley, an employe of the Puget Sound Electric company, was held up and robbed of his watch Wednesday night at the corner of Nineteenth street and Jefferson avenue. The highwaymen told him to "shut up" when he begged of them to save his watch, which was a present to him. Neither of the robbers wore masks.

CHRISTMAS SPENT BEHIND BARS

Fifteen unfortunate prisoners spent a dreary Christmas in the tanks at the county jail today. The jailers did what little they could to make life brighter for them, and a few tried to cheer up and have some sort of a Christmas day. Songs were sung, but the life in them died away before they were half finished. A few gifts of flowers and some delicacies were sent to the jail by charitable people, and these were thoroughly enjoyed.

The dinner that was served far surpassed the usual fare, but the big turkey was missing.

In the city jail a dozen hobos and drunkards are spending their Christmas. A few have spent Christmas behind the bars many times, and to them the situation is not a new one. There are a few, however, to whom it will be an everlasting disgrace. Many common drunks and small offenders were turned out of jail yesterday. Those who are still locked up will be given a good, substantial dinner.

BUILDING COMMITTEE WILL BE APPOINTED

A. E. Law, assistant general superintendent of the Northern Pacific, is back from St. Paul. He says that many inquiries are coming in from architects who wish to make bids for the erection of the new railway hospital to be built here.

A building committee will be first appointed, which will have the power to appoint a superintendent and let the contract for the construction of the hospital. This, however, will probably not be done before spring.

ARRESTED FOR FAST RIDING

Walter Higgins, a Clarks' transfer driver, is held at the police station on a charge of fast riding. The horse which he was riding is noted for running away with its rider, and is the one which ran away with one of the members of the national guard at their annual encampment at American lake.

CITY ITEMS

A gold-headed ebony cane was presented to A. M. Banks, Pierce county clerk, by his staff of deputies yesterday.

Mat Carlson and Fin Sweet are booked at the police station for fighting. They will spend the day in jail, as the police court will not be in session until tomorrow.

UNCLE SAM'S CHRISTMAS SMOKERS

"THESE ARE THE WORST EVER"

OLD SEA CAPTAIN TELLS OF A STORMY CHRISTMAS

Stories of Christmas days ashore and at sea are going the rounds on the water front today. The sailor loves to be ashore on Christmas, but when he is, he tells of the times he has spent on that day at sea.

To a group of old seamen the following story was told by a master who sailed one of the first ships out of Puget sound:

"It was 25 years ago today," he began. "I was in the Mediterranean sea. It had been thick, nasty weather and we hadn't seen the sun for a week. I was worried, and one afternoon told the old man—I was mate—that if he kept on the course we were on then that we would go ashore before night. He soon told me to go below, and if I came around again to consider myself under arrest. I told the second mate to keep a sharp lookout, as we were going ashore before 3 o'clock. Then I went below and turned in.

"They called me in a short time, and when I reached the deck I thought the jibboom was sticking into a mountain.

"We got the wheel over and brought her partly about. The old man wanted to know of me then if I thought we could save her, but not a bit of satisfaction did he get out of me. We got some sail on her and got off, but we were beached again in a minute.

"I had made a run for the rigging, and one sea caught me there. That sea struck me so hard that I thought my arms would pull off, but I managed to stay with it. I noticed att that it wasn't so bad, so I got there. The old man was there, and I offered to help him, but he wanted none of me. The old ship began to break up. She parted amidships first. Our old steward, trying to come aft, got caught as the decks opened up and a sea lifted the ship so the break closed. He was pinched in two. Half his body was above deck and half below.

"Then she broke up aft, and with the wreckage I went into the sea and under it, of course. It was close breathing for a minute while I climbed and swam out from under the stuff. Then a sea carried me away from the wreckage, and when I got back the remainder of the crew had managed to crawl on the floating pieces and were hanging on like rats. There was hardly room for another, but I thought I'd try for it. All of the lads washed off before I got to the float.

"I was over and under a good hit of the time. Finally I got a hold on a piece of drift. They say a drowning man will grasp at a straw, so I held onto this. I rolled about until I saw sights in that foam that I'd never saw before. After a while a breaker carried me ashore. As luck would have it, I was thrown into a small hole in the rocks, and the sea following threw a mass of wreckage and made a kind of breakwater. That saved me until I could get my wind again, and then I started for help.

"I ran across some poor folks. They didn't have much, but managed to get me some good hot milk and an old pair of shoes. I had started out barefooted. Then I got word to the English consul, and he got me a place so I worked my passage home.

"Yes, I was the only man in the crew who made shore. This happened 25 years ago. That was the year before I was married."

ORPHANS CHRISTMAS

For the past week the little children of the Orphans' Home have been playing at Christmas tree. They secured a small evergreen tree, from which they suspended broken dolls, pieces of candle and any other plaything they possessed.

Many of these children have never heard about Santa Claus, or have a very vague conception of what they name means. Nevertheless, they enter into the spirit with childish glee when the Christmas tree and Santa Claus are explained to them. This morning while the children of better homes were almost wild with joy over their gifts, the little orphans were showing their presents, for a number of boxes were yesterday consigned to Mrs. Woolsey, 1215 North J street, who is matron at the home. Out of the thirty-five children, eighteen have no parents, at least none of whom they know. The other seventeen are children of parents too poor to care for them.

ENGINEER KILLED

James Jenkins, a well-known stationary engineer, whose home is at Buckley, was struck by the 6:15 Northern Pacific train while walking on the track near the depot last night. So far as is known there were no eye witnesses to the accident. The man was not seen by the engineer until too late to stop the train. He was thrown from the track, striking his head and causing instant death. His left foot was crushed by the wheels of the engine.

Jenkins was about 45 years of age and a member of the Masonic lodge. He is survived by a widow and two children.

CROWDS FILL POST OFFICE

Large crowds assembled at the postoffice this morning, waiting to see what Santa Claus, assisted by Uncle Sam, had sent them. At 9 o'clock the line reached from the carrier's window to the door. At 10 the file extended to the walk and down half a block on Tenth street.

The postoffice was open for a little more than an hour this morning. Two collections were made in the business district, and but one in the residence portion of the city. No mail is being delivered by carriers today.

ASSESSOR TO HELP

Circular letters have been sent out by State Grain Inspector Anasmith to the county assessors of the state, asking their assistance in the compilation of grain statistics. The plan is for each county assessor to provide special space in his books for grain, so that the deputies can find out at any time how much the farmers have planted. In this manner it will be possible to estimate with accuracy the yield of small grain under all circumstances.

CHARGES AGAINST NAVAL OFFICERS

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 25.—News of a complaint against Admiral Wise and officers in charge of the training squadron at New Orleans has reached here.

It is alleged by the men on the flagship Minneapolis that Seaman McDonald was drowned Wednesday morning and that little was done to recover his body. Admiral Wise and his staff made an unofficial reply in which they stated that McDonald had fought with another seaman over a bottle of whiskey while on a launch. He fell overboard and was drowned. An attempt was made to get the body, but the current was so swift that it was impossible.

EARTHQUAKE

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Dec. 25.—A heavy earthquake shock was felt this morning at 9:45 o'clock. Several buildings were shaken. The shock was felt throughout the city and caused great excitement.

FIRE

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 25.—S. H. Lyer & Sons' Price extracts factory burned don this morning. The loss is $75,000.

PARKER CAUGHT

PORTLAND, Or., Dec. 25.—Forger Parker was captured this morning near Condon. Parker is the man who yesterday jumped from a train while on his way to Portland in charge of Detective Joe Day. The officer was asleep at the time.

MURDERER ESCAPES

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Dec. 25.—Present Bell shot and fatally wounded Abe Welch this afternoon in a drunken street quarrel. Bell held a large crowd at bay while he reloaded his revolver. He fired on his pursuers as he ran, and succeeded i nescaping to the fields. Officers are in pursuit, and it is expected that he will be taken, but not without a fight.

ACCIDENT IS FATAL

Sylvester Farrell, a gripman employed by the street railway company, who was injured some time ago in an accident, died last night at a local hospital. The deceased was 28 years of age. A mother, sister and several brothers survive him. He resided at 2211 North Twenty-ninth street. Farrell was a member of the local Carmen's union.

Sylvester Farrell was well known to patrons of the street car lines in Tacoma. He was a gripman on the cable line for two or three years. The accident which was the cause of his death was not considered very serious until Wednesday night, when he grew rapidly worse and was removed from his home to the hospital, where he died.

Farrell was hurt about a month ago while waiting at the corner of Eleventh street and Pacific avenue until time to proceed on the way up the hill. The car gave a sudden jerk, caused by a broken strand. In the fall he struck his knee on the brake. He suffered a good deal of pain for a while, but it nearly left him until Wednesday night, when it shifted from the knee and affected his heart.

ORDERS ARE SIGNIFICENT

The United States cable ship Burnside, which discharged cable in Tacoma a few days ago, has received orders to go to the Philippines by way of Honolulu, instead of Nagasaki, as was originally intended.

This change is thought to have been made on account of the conditions in the East, and that the United States still believes the troubles between Japan and Russia far from settled.

It is understood that Russia has had secret agents here and in San Francisco trying to get supplies for that country, and to have them delivered at Port Arthur.

Dealers are awake to the situation, and all forage is away up. Oats from $20 to $25 a ton. Timothy hay also very high.

The Japanese in this country are of the patriotic order, and if war comes the Japs will start for home in short order. Many have already gone.

LONE EVANGELIST SENT TO ASYLUM

H. Hunter was sent to Steilacoom asylum yesterday by Judge Chapman. Hunter's home has been in South Prairie, where he has been in the habit of yelling at the top of his voice nights. He holds revival services in the woods all by himself.

While being examined by Judge Chapman he informed him that he had a box at home in which he could take himself or friends on any voyage they wished to undertake, the moon not barred.

LIGE DOWIE PLAYS SANTA

CHICAGO, Dec. 25.—Attired as Santa Claus, with flowing robes of red, and carrying a huge pack, Dowie, the "Second Elijah," distributed gifts to thousands of children in Zion City today. He was followed about the streets by crowds of men, women and children, notwithstanding the blinding snowstorm.

FIREMENS BALL

The grand ball to be given by the fire department Wednesday evening, December 30, promises to be a success. The ball is to be given for the purpose of raising money to swell the funds of the Firemen's Benevolent association. The Lyceum orchestra has been secured for the evening, and good music can be expected.