

NINE DIE IN BURNING HOTEL

WHILE YOU'RE RIPPING THINGS UP DON'T FORGET THAT RECALL

All sorts of stories are rife as to how the new commission is going to "rip up" the city government. Some of them no doubt are true, others are probably the result of old ideas concerning the political doctrine that "to the victor belongs the spoils."

If the new commission is laboring under this same mistaken idea it had better get rid of it before it assumes office. The people have elected this commission and adopted a progressive city charter to get away from the falacies of the politicians and to get municipal business right down to a common-sense basis where efficiency and good work shall be the only test of fitness for office.

If the new commission starts in by ripping up the city offices unceremoniously, handing out official plums here and distributing patronage there to family or political favorites there will be an object lesson given it before many moons of just what the people meant when they put into the new charter that provision for the recall.

The men elected on the new commission have been given a splendid vote of confidence by the people. They were elected because they were supposed to be men of good hard sense who would give the public the benefit of that judgment and special training.

There has been some disappointment occasioned by the haste with which Mayor A. V. Fawcett rushed forward to tear up the health department, putting in men whom he said "were for him" in the election. If this policy is to be pursued all along the line it

means a lot of trouble ahead for the commission. The people voted for business and efficiency and not for any construction of political machines, and whether the fellow who tries it is named Fawcett or Freeland, Woods or Lawson or Roys will matter little to the masses who must pay the bills.

A report is current that the light department is to come in for a ripping up at once. City Electrician Lauzon, it is said, is to go, and one of the reasons assigned for his disfavor in the eyes of certain men on the commission is said to be that he did not boost the son of one of the new commissioners to a place ahead of old linemen.

If any such excuses as this are made to operate to cause the dismissal of Lauzon or anyone else in the city service, the commission will hear from the people just about as soon as the new charter permits a recall election.

There are plenty of city employes who will probably not come up to the standard in the new government. But there are plenty who will. And the people demand that the efficient be saved and the inefficient be removed when their lack of ability has been demonstrated.

Every man should be given a chance to show what he can do, however, and not thrust out simply to make room for the partisans of members of the commission.

There is a great danger here for the new commission, and it will act wisely if it acts slowly for a time until it gets its bearings.

WEZLER IS ON TRIAL TODAY

Six veniremen were passed for cause to try Charles J. Wezler for the murder of Mrs. Frederika Schulz by noon today. The trial opened before Superior Judge Chapman at 10 o'clock and the examination of jurors proceeded rapidly.

Wezler was brought into the court room by a deputy sheriff through the private passageway from the jail. He was quite composed today and except in two or three instances when he was seen to wipe his eyes, he was calm. He watched the proceedings closely.

The following men have been passed temporarily: Thomas Page, city; A. L. Hurd, city; E. J. Bueholz, Hillhurst; A. E. Johnson, Gig Harbor; Thomas Blandy, city; R. C. Votaw, city. The following were excused because of prejudice: F. Hawes, W. D. Demorest, Frank Eoberg, W. A. Stimpson, James O'Reilly and H. E. North.

It is possible that the jury may be required before the adjournment of court this afternoon. After the noon adjournment, Wezler was taken to the county clerk's office and was again allowed to see his children. Miss Emma Schulz brought the children to the court house and she waited in the sheriff's office while the children were with their father.

Both the children and their father were delighted to be together today. The children, rather shy the first day, were not that way today and they sat upon his knee and played around in "papa's office" without any signs of fear.

MANY OTHERS ESCAPE BY JUMPING

PROPERTY WORTH \$250,000 DESTROYED IN BLAZE IN CORNWALL, ONTARIO, TODAY.

(By United Press Leased Wire.) CORNWALL, Ont., April 29.—A disastrous fire broke out in the Rossmore hotel, and before the flames were quenched nine lives were lost and property valued at a quarter of a million dollars destroyed.

The victims were all sleeping in the hotel. The flames jumped across the street and destroyed the Colquhoun block. Had it not been for the coolness and presence of mind of William Fitzgibbon, the well known president of the Cornwall Lacrosse club, several more would have perished.

Fitzgibbon woke Fielding, who in the smoke must have been confused and made for the regular exit, which was cut off. Fitzgibbon then rescued three dining room girls by getting them out on the roof through a skylight. The fire gained great headway before being noticed.

Declaring that death may come at any time if the man is not made to drink water, the coroner has asked the prosecuting attorney to take immediate action in the case. Rader has made his long fast at the direction of Dr. Lida Burfield Hazard, a woman physician whose treatment emphasizes fasting. Dr. Hazard has come in conflict with the police and prosecuting attorney several times before as a result of her "fast treatment."

Fastening to Win Health Is Dying

(By United Press Leased Wire.) SEATTLE, April 29.—For twenty-six days L. E. Rader, a land broker and former state representative from Pierce and Kitsap counties, has tasted no food and touched no water, in an effort to regain his health, according to Coroner Snyder and G. T. Oide, proprietor of the hotel where Rader is a guest.

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BALLINGER ON THE STAND

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 29.—Richard A. Ballinger, secretary of the interior, was on the stand in the hearing of the Ballinger-Pinchot controversy today. He maintained a calm exterior, but before taking his sitting, in the "grilling chamber" said to the reporters:

"I will not follow in the footsteps of those who throw calumny on government officials and then refuse to swear to their statements." In the beginning of his examination, Ballinger outlined his career in Washington state; told of his administration as mayor of Seattle. Ballinger seemed to plunge himself upon his record as mayor in Seattle, saying "They knew I intended to enforce the law, and I did!"

UNDERTAKER FAVORABLE TO HYDE

(By United Press Leased Wire.) KANSAS CITY, Mo., April 29.—Testimony tending to prove that the casket of the late Colonel Thomas H. Swope had been rifled and the body of the capitalist tampered with, was the feature of the trial of Dr. B. C. Hyde today.

R. D. Mitchell, an undertaker, testified that the coffin had been fastened securely by him just before the funeral.

He said that he personally had screwed down the lid of the casket.

The defense in its opening statement made the claim that it intends to prove that the body had been taken from the vault at the cemetery and poison injected into the veins.

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NOT YET---BUT SOON



Mrs. Wezler Puts Blame on Her Ex-Husband

WOMAN SAYS SHE NEVER DENIED WEZLER'S REQUEST TO SEE CHILDREN--TELLS OF HIS THREATS TO KILL HER AND SAYS TOO MUCH SYMPATHY HAS BEEN WASTED UPON HIM.

Mrs. Louise Wezler, divorced wife of Charles J. Wezler, after consulting an attorney, today decided to make public her side of the case and answer Wezler's charges that she had brought on all the trouble by her refusal to let him see the children. She made the following statement to the Times:

"Too much sympathy has been aroused for Charles Wezler by his statements that I would not let him see the children. I feel that I ought to give my side of the case. At no time when he has called has he been refused permission to see the children. I got my divorce a year ago on the grounds of cruel treatment and failure to provide. He was in Seattle at the time, and personal service was made upon him. He admitted to me that he knew I could get the divorce. He went away before the divorce suit came up, later telling me that he did it to avoid paying temporary alimony."

"I was given my divorce and the custody of the children. That was in May, 1909. He was ordered to pay alimony, but he did not pay any and did not come back to Seattle until November, 1909. Intended to Kill Her.

"He came to my house in Seattle then, and afterward he told me that he came with the intention of killing me, but that he lost heart when he saw little Charles standing by me. He asked to see Leona, and as she was at school then I took her to the Butler hotel that night, and there he saw her. Then he went to Portland and returned in December. A man called me up and told me that my cousin, Mrs. Collins, wanted to see me. I called her up, and she said she had not sent any such message. Late that same day Mr. Wezler telephoned me and told me that I had saved my life by not going to my cousin's as he had intended to kill me.

"He came to my house that night and demanded that I either re-marry him or forego my claim to alimony or he would kill me. He has never paid a cent of alimony."

"I have never seen him since that day. Last Christmas I received a letter from him in Portland, asking me to bring the children down there so he could see them. I refused. Again in February he wrote and wanted me to bring them down anyhow.

"During our married life, I was compelled to take roomers to help pay expenses, and when he left he left a \$50 grocery bill, and also a doctor bill, which I paid by mortgaging my home. That mortgage is not paid yet."

BOY ADMITS ATTACK ON GIRL

LOS ANGELES, Cal., April 29.—According to the police, Frank Allen, 15 years of age, son of a federal officer, today confessed that he struck the blows that fractured the skull of Etta Lamsden, who lies in a critical condition in the Good Samaritan hospital.

Allen is in jail awaiting the result of the girl's injuries. The boy was brought to the police station shortly before noon and questioned. He admitted to the police, according to the statement of the police, that he crushed the little girl's skull with an axe.

Allen lived next door to the Lamsdens. According to his alleged confession, he became angry when Etta rejected a proposal he made, and attacked her with the axe, after washed the blood from his hands in a sprinkling can and ran to his home. Young Allen is a ward of the juvenile court. He was arrested for burglary a year ago and released on probation.

Important Notice to Women

Do the women of this city and congressional district really want to vote?

Here's a question and a mighty big one. Interest in the woman suffrage movement is sweeping the nation. The other day the organized advocates of suffrage presented a petition to congress signed by nearly a half million true and loyal American citizens praying that women be given equal rights.

What attitude shall Congressman McCredie take toward that prayer? Beginning today, on our woman's page, the Times gives the women of this congressional district an opportunity to express their wishes.

Find the ballot on the woman's page today, mark it and return it to "Suffrage Editor" the Daily Times office. Your vote will be counted for or against the proposition of amending the constitution. It will be forwarded to Congressman McCredie for such action as he will deem wise and proper.

We have also arranged for a joint debate on the subject, "Should Women Want to Vote?" in which the most prominent national and local leaders of the forces of suffrage and anti-suffrage will present their rival arguments.

Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont and Mrs. Gilbert Jones, both of New York, and the most conspicuous generals of the rival forces, debate on the woman's page today.

Get ready to vote, ladies! Vote to vote or vote against voting! During the past century women of all civilized nations have worked a great change in the social position of the sex. They have asserted their independence. Millions are today economically free. In this country on are intellectually free.

Do they want legal and governmental equality? Do they want full rights with men? We believe that the readers of this newspaper are interested in these questions, and the Times referendum should at least show which way the wind is blowing. Editor.

Odd and Ends

THEN IT HAPPENED Our Daily Discontinued Story.



"Husk" Higginbotham, the 280-pound member of the Fat Men's club, rejoiced to find Horstense at last alone when he entered the parlor of the elite boarding house.

"Let's settle down for a nice little chat," he gurgled, throwing himself negligently upon a slender gilt chair.

The end.

Tacoma Greeks will celebrate their big church festival day next Sunday. Corresponds with our Easter.

Five divorce suits were filed in Pierce county courts yesterday.

One of the secrets of Otis Skinner's great mastery of his art is the diversified experience that he has had. In the last thirty-five years he has played nearly two hundred parts.

At insurance cars in Chicago are of the "pay-as-you-enter" variety.

WESTON NEARING END. HUDSON, N. Y., April 29.—With the end of his long foot journey with but a few miles distance, Edward Payson Weston, the aged pedestrian, who is walking from the Pacific ocean, will not enter New York city until Monday morning. Weston reached here today.

Mrs. Kvalshaug Tells Her Story

DECLARES SHE HAD TOLD NEWCOMB IT WAS ALL OFF BETWEEN THEM, AND THAT SHE HAD DECIDED TO LIVE BETTER LIFE--NEWCOMB MADE THREATS AGAINST HER HUSBAND BUT SHE DID NOT CONSIDER THEM SERIOUSLY, SHE TESTIFIES.

Telling freely of her relations with Charles Newcomb, but denying any knowledge of his plans to murder her husband, Mrs. Martina Kvalshaug took the stand in her trial for murder today.

Her old indifference and calmness seems to have returned, and she told all the embarrassing details without faltering.

She began by telling of her meeting with Newcomb and their subsequent illicit meetings at the Davenport hotel on C street. These began during the first part of February, 1909, and continued until the first part of May.

After she had been to the hospital for an operation, she said, she decided to cancel her relations with Newcomb and refused repeatedly to meet him down town when he asked her over the telephone. Finally she decided to meet him just for the purpose of telling him that she would have no more to do with him.

Meeting at Hotel. "I met him at the Davenport hotel in the afternoon," she told the jury. "We sat and talked together for a short time and I told him then that I didn't want to meet him the way I had done, any more. That made him angry, and he said he would knock my husband's—block off or something like that. I told him to quit talking that way, but I didn't think he meant it at all. We parted angry that time, but he began to call me over the telephone again.

"I refused to meet him at the hotel any more, but when he suggested that we meet at Point Defiance park, I said that I would. I wanted to let him down easy, so we met downtown May 12, and

went out to the park. We were there all afternoon, and I kept telling him all the time that I had resolved to give up our shameful relations and be what I ought to be.

Newcomb Had Gun. "We were sitting on the grass when a gun dropped out of his pocket. I said, 'Whoa, what's that?' and he told me it was the money I loaned him. Then we quarreled over his not paying me the \$10 he had borrowed."

Mrs. Kvalshaug did not reach the point in her story which would relate to the killing of her husband and of her alleged subsequent confession. It is almost certain, however, that she will deny any knowledge of the confession, as she did in her first trial and that she fired any of the shots that killed her husband.

To refute the statement of Newcomb that the woman seized the revolver and fired two shots into her husband's prostrate body, the defense today called S. A. Andrews and J. T. Willis, two of the jurors in the first trial. They testified that they discovered in the jury room that the revolver with which the shooting was done would only go off about twice when it would catch and would not fire again without first pulling back the hammer. Kelly purposes to show by this that Newcomb fired all of the shots and that the interval was caused by the defective gun.

WEATHER FORECAST. For Tacoma and vicinity: Fair tonight and Saturday. Light easterly winds.

T. R. VISITS HOLLAND'S QUEEN

(By a Staff Correspondent of the United Press.) ARHEM, Netherlands, April 29.—Theodore Roosevelt, and his party, who arrived at noon today, were at once taken to the royal palace where they were received by Queen Wilhelmina, and Prince Henry. Two automobiles, sent by the queen, were waiting at the station when the party arrived and the Roosevelts were driven at once to the palace.

A great crowd was waiting at the station and the colonel was given a rousing reception. All along the route of his journey to Arnhem he was cheered and applauded.

After the party had been received at the palace, Queen Wilhelmina personally conducted the Roosevelts around the palace grounds.

The party left this afternoon on a special train for Amsterdam. The burgemeister will give a dinner tonight at the queen's Amsterdam palace. At 11 o'clock tonight Roosevelt will start for The Hague.

Salvation Army Is Branch of Original

Local officers of the Salvation Army declare that the suit brought by General Booth against the "American Salvation Army" is not directed against the organization headed by his daughter, Miss Evangeline Booth. From court records it is shown conclusively that the organization which has been forbidden the use of the title is headed by "General" James W. Duffien. The Salvation Army in Tacoma is a branch of the parent organization, headed by Commander Miss Booth.

TEE HEE! THE JOKESMITH'S UNION GETS BUSY AND FLOODS THE TIMES FUNNY EDITOR WITH THESE:

Have you send in your funny story yet? Scores of Times readers have contributed laugh-makers in the Times' funny story contest, but surely every person knows at least one funny story and it might win the prize, so send it in.

Remember, the contest closes next Wednesday, on which date the prize-winner and the honorable mention stories will be printed. Here are some of the stories received by the Funny Story Editor today:

The Hindoo, as a rule, is incapable of originating a scheme to place on the line as follows: "Tiger on platform eating station-master; please give instructions." MRS. J. M. KERR. 6619 South Lawrence street.

An ambitious would-be actor secured a minor part in which he was to rush upon the stage and say "The queen has swooned." When his cue was given he was so

confused he said instead, "The swoon has queneed!" hastily trying to correct himself, he made another effort, saying: "The ooon has swooned," then turned wildly to flee from the wrath of the king, as he made the third effort to retrieve himself, saying wildly: "The swoon has cooned!"

MRS. C. E. FOSTER. 1406 North 17th, Tacoma.

Nothing Lost. A certain British officer was relating the story of one of Gen. Buller's retreats. "Buller," he said, "was splendid. He retired without losing a man, or a flag, or a gun."

"So I've heard," said one of the company, "or a minute."

Hoping I will get the \$2, I remain yours sincerely, A. E. KATSCHER. Puyallup, Wash.

One Better. Mr. Jones: Talk about cold—why, it was so cold back where I lived that the cows gave ice cream.

"That's nothing," said Mr. Senter. "Why, I fed my chickens tacks last spring and dum me if they didn't insist on laying the carpets."

Suspense Almost Fatal. One morning Pat's employer found him in his barn hanging from the rafters with a rope around his waist.

"What's the matter, Pat?" says he. "Trying to hang myself," says Pat. "Why don't you put the rope around your neck?" "I tried that, but I couldn't breathe."

BELL M'CALLUM. 1620 South A street, city.

A traveling salesman with an impediment in his speech tried to sell a bill of goods to an ill-tempered, bad-mannered grocer. After examining his goods and refusing to buy, he inquired, "Do you always stammer, sir?" "Yes, sir, I do. T-t-t-that's m-m-m-my p-p-p-peculiarity. W-w-w-what's y-y-y-your p-p-p-peculiarity?"