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THE TACOMA TIMES.

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TACOMA, WASH., WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 1910

80 CENTS A MONTH.

ALL ABOARD

For the Great Trip; We Start at 5. P. M.
Tonight and We Travel at the Rate
of 3,000 Miles Per Hour Through the

COMET'S TAIL

YES THE POLICEMAN EARNED HIS PAY AND THE COST IS KATE MURPHY'S SELF RESPECT

Kate Murphy, mother of a boy of six, wife of J. K. Murphy, a citizen of East E street, was cut down in the city jail just in time to save her life last night by Jailer McCoy, after she had hanged herself with an electric light wire.

The law was being vindicated on Mrs. Murphy.

She had drunk some, quarreled on the street, and a vigilant policeman had taken her in.

Mrs. Murphy is not a criminal. She had never seen the inside of a jail before. To her mind arrest was lifelong disgrace, and she tried to end it all with a copper wire.

THE OFFICER FELT HE HAD DONE HIS DUTY. HIS ORDERS ARE TO ARREST VIOLATORS OF THE LAW. AND HE DID IT. HE HAD EARNED HIS PAY, AND THE COST WAS KATE MURPHY'S SELF-RESPECT, A FAMILY DISGRACED.

That's the way our police system works. Is the system good, or would it not be better to follow the plan of Chief Kohler of Cleveland, as detailed in the Times last week, and try to teach the weak to be better rather than crush what self-respect they have.

Most first offenders are weak, says Chief Kohler; not really vicious.

Mrs. Murphy was weak. She drank because she was not able to withstand the temptation. The drink made her noisy, and the cop slapped the law upon her.

Then she realized her weakness, and her realization brought remorse. She saw disgrace for herself and her family. She saw the tear-stained face of her little boy when he should hear the mother was in jail. She saw the reproachful and sorrowful face of her husband, and she could not stand it, so she tried to end it all.

And who is benefited? Is the city better? Will Mrs. Murphy with her self-respect shattered be likely to improve, or will she be apt to further excesses. Her rashness in trying to end her life indicates the natural tendency when self-respect is gone.

Will her husband be better or her little boy? After all, what good will come of the arrest of Mrs. Murphy.

The police department of Tacoma like that of most cities will say it must suppress lawlessness and preserve order. But does it do it?

The policeman is not to blame for arresting Mrs. Murphy. He was obeying orders. But in the light of experience wouldn't it be well to change the system?

Chief Kohler tried a change in Cleveland. On Christmas day, 1907, he ordered the cops to stop arresting first offenders for petty misdemeanors. If a man was drunk he was to be taken home, and encouraged to do better. If women quarreled the police were to investigate and explain the law and teach instead of club the people into being law-abiding.

The politicians howled, the people laughed, and police departments said Kohler had gone crazy. But he reduced the arrests from over 30,000 a year to less than 6,000 in three years, and public morals in Cleveland are better than in most cities of half a million.

Supposing the officer had taken Kate Murphy quietly but firmly and put her on a street car and sent her home. Wouldn't the chances be just as good for her reformation? And wouldn't the city be just as well off, and wouldn't her little boy and her family be better off?

Experience shows that arresting people causes them to lose self-respect. And the loss of self-respect drives them from thoughtless and weak into reckless and desperate acts.

Would it not be well to try golden rule methods on the Kate Murphys of Tacoma?

In the regular court procedure Mrs. Murphy may be arraigned before a gaping crowd of court hangers-on. She will stand there and hear them snicker and may hear the sentence of the court, and who will be benefited?

Is there anything about it that will make her or anybody else in the court room or elsewhere any better?

NEVER TOUCHED ME!



Earth Will Pass Right Through Comet Tonight But We Might Not See It

BERKELEY, Cal., May 18.—Halley's comet will begin its transit across the face of the sun at 7:39:10 p. m., tonight, Pacific standard time. This is the latest and most authentic computation, and was made by Prof. A. O. Luescher, astronomer at the University of California, at the request of the Astronomical and Astrophysical Society of Washington, D. C.

(By Prof. A. O. Luescher.)

The comet will be in transit across the face of the sun tonight. The time of ingress will be 7:39:10 p. m. The middle of transit will be 8:08:46 p. m., and the time of egress 8:37:46 p. m. These figures are Pacific standard time.

"The transit, theoretically, may be observable from point only in the Pacific ocean, although it is doubtful if astronomers of the Orient will be able to discern the transit.

Six hours of it.

The earth will enter the tail of the comet tonight at 5 p. m., and will emerge at 11 p. m., passing through at the rate of 50 miles a second.

"It therefore may be seen that the earth will take about five hours longer in passing through the tail of the comet than the comet will take in passing across (Continued on Page Eight.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 18.—Official data issued here today sets forth the following facts concerning Halley's comet:

The earth enters the comet's tail at 11:20 o'clock tonight, eastern time.

The estimated thickness of the tail at the point of interception by the earth is 1,000,000 miles.

The length of the tail is estimated at 20,000,000 miles.

The distance between the earth and the head of the comet is computed to be 14,000,000 miles.

An illumination of the western sky is predicted with a possible meteoric display.

DAILY COMET BULLETIN

May 18, comet crosses disk of sun. On this day the comet will be invisible to us because it is broad daylight with us during the hours the comet is above our horizon.

It may be visible in the western sky shortly after sunset tomorrow evening.

Ballinger Hobnobbed With "Pierp." Morgan; More Secrets Laid Bare

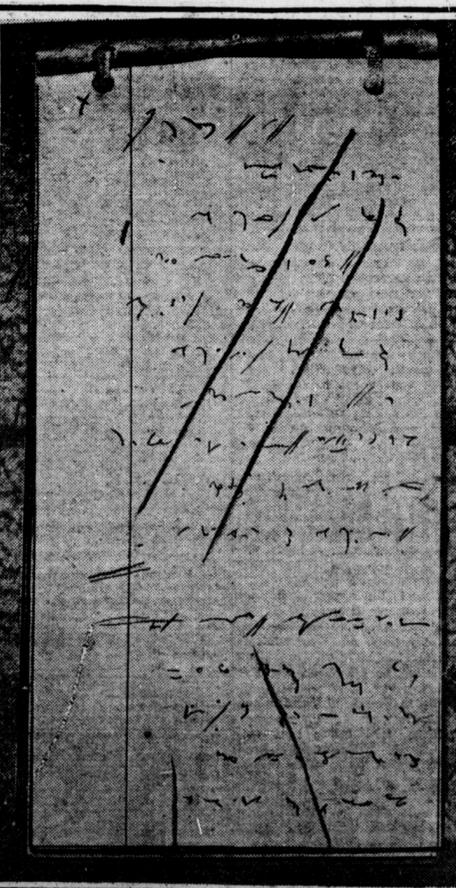
EPIDEMIC OF RABIES IN IDAHO

COWS AND DOGS ATTACKED BY STRANGE MALADY

LEWISTON, Idaho, May 18.—Despite the efforts of veterinarians scores of range cattle are going mad in the Salmon river district. It is suspected that the rabies are epidemic in the district. The valuable span of horses was gored to death yesterday by a maddened cow near White Bird, and when corralled she battered her brains out against the pen rails.

A number of dogs, presumably mad, have been killed and several rabid coyotes have been shot down by ranchmen.

SOME OF BALLINGER'S TELEGRAMS



FROM STENOGRAPHER KERBY'S SHORTHAND NOTEBOOK

The above is a photographic reproduction of two telegrams dictated by Ballinger to his stenographer about the time of publication of the famous Taft whitewashing letter. Both telegrams are significant, the first addressed being to the attorney general of the United States, who took such a lively part in the whitewash, and the second to the managing head of a great news dispensing organization. The above page of notes, translated, follows:

(Telegram)
George W. Wickersham,
New York:

Can I make an appointment to meet you at Manhattan Hotel Friday morning. Temporary physical disability prompts request for appointment at hotel.

(Telegram)
Melville E. Stone,
Associated Press,
New York:

Will be pleased to see you at Manhattan Hotel Friday morning. Temporary physical disability prompts request for appointment at hotel.

Kerby Puts Another Bombshell Under the Taft-Ballinger Crowd

(By United Press Leased Wire.)
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 18. The prediction that George W. Perkins of the J. P. Morgan company would be called as a witness was a feature of the Ballinger investigation today. Letters marked "personal" and "confidential" on record before the committee show that Ballinger, soon after he became secretary of the interior department, was in communication with Perkins concerning the plans Perkins and Reginald H. Thomson, city engineer of Seattle, had made for a trip to Alaska last summer.

That Thomson also will be called to the stand is considered probable.

The correspondence, which was brought out by Frederick M. Kerby, former stenographer for the interior department, shows that Ballinger wrote a personal letter to Thomson May 9, 1909, telling of a visit of the secretary to Perkins.

Guest of Morgan Man

"I was a guest of Perkins at Yonkers, last Sunday," Ballinger wrote. "Perkins is the head of the Morgan company."

"Perkins told me he had arranged for a special boat to take himself and his party, including his family, to Alaska, to investigate the feasibility of exploiting Alaska in railroad construction and other lines in which he is deeply interested. He will sail from Seattle about the middle of July."

"Perkins is insistent that I recommend an engineer to accompany him who is connected in no way with any Alaskan interests, railroad or other private concern which might influence his judgment. I could think of no one so well equipped as you and as the trip is one of importance, great pleasure and profit, it occurred to me you might enjoy this form of vacation. I hope you will not understand by this suggestion I have in any sense abandoned hope about securing your services in the matter about which we conferred at Seattle. I anticipate that not later than September I will be able formally to present that matter to you."

(Continued on Page Eight.)

Births

Frank A. Burgeson, 737 Tacoma avenue, boy; Vincent L. L. Arnet, 307 South M street, boy; Louis Larson, 1631 East 33rd street, boy; Charles S. Shoemaker, Manito park, girl; H. E. Warren, 628 South Anderson, girl.



FREDERICK M. KERBY, BALLINGER'S STENOGRAPHER.

LAD GORED BY COW MAY DIE

(By United Press Leased Wire.)
BORING, Ore., May 18.—Only slight hopes for the recovery of nine-year-old Louis Hoffman, who was gored by an enraged cow last night, are held out by physicians today.

The lad was standing near the door of a slaughter house when a cow, infuriated by the smell of blood, lunged at him.

One of the animal's horns struck him in the mouth, knocking him down. The cow gored him in the side and was preparing to make a second onslaught when the boy was rescued.

Proprietors of all kinds of stores on Sixth avenue have decided to give their employees a half-holiday every week during the summer, this afternoon being the first one.

T. R. AGAIN CALLS ON KING

LONDON, May 18.—For the second time in three days Colonel Roosevelt called upon King George. Today the former American president was accompanied by Mrs. Roosevelt, who was presented to the new monarch for the first time. The Roosevelts later called upon King Frederick of Denmark at Buckingham palace.

In the course of the day a number of persons visited Dorchester house to see the Roosevelts.

Today is "Peace day."

Every school in the country has been asked by the American Peace society to have a program today devoted to developing the idea of universal peace in the hearts of half-holiday every week during the summer, this afternoon being the first one.

Did This Come From the Comet?

(BULLETIN.)
TOPEKA, Kas., May 18.—A small meteorite fell through the roof of the Shawnee building at 10 o'clock this morning. The aerial projectile struck within a few feet of the desk of J. W. Goring, manager of the Shawnee Fire Insurance company.

The fall of the meteorite caused a panic among the four or five clerks in the office. The stone was so hot it could not be handled.

Fear End of World Is Here

ATLANTA, Ga., May 18.—Panic over the approach of Halley's comet today threatened a serious outbreak among the convicts in the federal prison here. While many of the prisoners actually believed that the earth will be destroyed, it is thought that the panic was increased purposely by prisoners inclined to use the agitation as a cloak for prison disorder and rebellion against discipline. Extra precautions are being taken by the prison officials and every guard will be on duty at sundown.

For the first time in the history of the prison, a class of convicts was confirmed today by the Catholic bishop, assisted by a number of priests.

LEXINGTON, Ky., May 18.—Certain that the approach of Halley's comet tonight spells their doom, many farmers in Kentucky and hundreds of ignorant negroes are preparing for the end of the world tonight, when the celestial tramp's tail enraptures the world.

In Lexington large bands of negroes attended all night prayer services.

The majority of the negroes are in abject fear of the coming of the comet. For the last week they have been holding "union services," which have been crowded.

Dig Cellars

A number of persons, white and black, have dug cellars which they intend to go into while the earth is passing through the comet's tail.

GALVESTON, Tex., May 18.—Throughout Texas today thousands of negroes knocked off work and gathered in churches and camp meetings to prepare for the end of the world, so fearful are they that the comet will bring death and devastation to the earth when it passes tonight.

GIRL HELD A CAPTIVE 3 MONTHS

(By United Press Leased Wire.)
NEW YORK, May 18.—Elizabeth Kelly, 16, than a year in this country, was rescued from the third story of a house in Bayonne, N. J., yesterday by the police, where for three months she had been held captive by an Italian. She was without clothing and nearly crazy with fear when found. She says the Italian met her at a moving picture show and coerced her employment to get her to the house. Her clothing was taken from her for fear she would escape.

WEATHER FORECAST
Fair tonight and Thursday; light westerly wind.