

A PLATITUDE REPEATED
Chicago's 40¢ had a Spanish Ball for charity.
Charity got \$25,000.
Dressmakers got \$100,000.
Charity covers a multitude of bunk.

The Tacoma Times

THE ONLY INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER IN TACOMA.

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HOME EDITION

WEATHER

Tacoma: Rain tonight and Tuesday.
Washington: Rain west, rain or snow east portion, warmer east portion.

13 DIE OF LA GRIPPE

SEATTLE WOMAN HAS \$2,000 A DAY INCOME

Mrs. Hugh Rood Is the Mysterious Person, Announcement of Whose Wealth by Federal Officials Set All Northwest to Wondering; She's a Widow, Has Twenty-Five Millions.

When we read the other day a dispatch from Washington, D. C., stating that the U. S. treasury department's income tax collectors had found the richest person in the Northwest, whose income is \$500,000 a year, we all pursed up our lips and emitted a noiseless whistle which means "Whee-oo!"

A half million dollars a year! Whee-oo!
The dispatch did not give the name of the richest person in the Northwest, so we guessed at his identity. And we all guessed wrong.

There is no need to guess now, however. The richest person has been found. She is—yes, SHE, for the richest person is a woman—she is—Mrs. Lena Rood.

It is quite likely that you never heard of Mrs. Lena Rood. Your banker knows all about her, though, and speaks her name with reverential respect.

Mrs. Rood's income is nearly \$2,000 a day.

You probably didn't get that the first time, so we repeat: Mrs. Rood's income is \$2,000 a day. It is a pleasant diversion to discover what Mrs. Rood could buy with her daily income. She could buy four Ford automobiles every day, or a yearly total of 1,460 flivvers.

Mrs. Rood did not earn her fortune, though she added to it. Before she was Mrs. Rood, she was Mrs. Stauber. Stauber was a mining man who struck it rich in Colorado years ago. He died, leaving his widow, it is said, \$25,000,000.

Mrs. Stauber became Mrs. Hugh R. Rood. Rood was a Seattle man, well-to-do. He owned a creosoting plant. He was one of the Titanic victims, and Mrs. Rood became again a widow. Now she owns a creosoting works and real estate, as well as mines, and stocks and bonds.

Mrs. Rood lives in lonely state in Seattle, at the Washington apartments, which building she owns. She has nine rooms, a butler, a French maid, a cook, a chauffeur and two big cars.

She is a sociable woman, rather democratic than otherwise. She is a keen business woman, with a brusque manner and a blunt tongue.

She does not care for "society," though she frequently entertains members of society whom she happens to like. She is especially fond of young people.

Mrs. Rood is middle-aged, of medium height, and very strong. She has a high color. Indeed, her complexion is almost ruddy. Her black hair is tinged with gray.

She has a tremendous personality, and rides rough-shod over opposition. A few years ago she lived at the Perry hotel. She wanted certain changes made. The manager sounded other guests and found them opposed. He so informed Mrs. Rood.

"Who," asked Mrs. Rood, "owns this hotel?" She was given the name of an attorney in the Colman building who represented the principal stockholders, some of whom lived in the East.

Mrs. Rood left the hotel, and returned in half an hour. To the manager she said: "You're fired!" She had bought a controlling interest.

NEGRO NATION MAY DETERMINE EUROPE'S WAR

LONDON, Eng., Dec. 27.—The negro nation of Abyssinia may win the European war for the allies! She is now being relied upon to save the Suez canal and stem the tide of the Turco-Teuton drive on Egypt.

The greatest of conflicts soon will shift the theater of human bloodshed from Europe to Asia. The Catechism, the black, the yellow man will mix their blood in what may soon prove the titanic and probably decisive struggle for supremacy in the great war.

There exists no further doubt that Germany wants Egypt—that already her forces are marching on it. Her designs have swelled to such an extent that every preparation is being hurriedly but systematically made by the allies to DEFEND THE SUEZ CANAL AT ANY COST.

Already 100,000 British soldiers have evacuated their positions in the Dardanelles.

There can be no doubt that General Munro is moving them to the defense of the Suez canal.

British troops are moving the ureo-German thousands for the east drive. They are now under the command of Gen. von der Goltz of Syria. From the east will move thousands of

British troops for PERSIA HAS FLEDGED HER AID TO THE KAISER AND THE SULTAN.

Meeting, they will seek to cross the Sinai peninsula to reach the



EMPEROR LIJ YEASSU, ruler of Abyssinia.

Suez canal. If they succeed they will follow in the footsteps of the children of Israel.

(Continued on Page Eight.)

FLASHES

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The state department believes today that Germany is attempting to aid Austria in settling the Ancona controversy in such a manner as to please the U. S. and at the same time preserve the Austrian navy.

CETTINJE—The Montenegrin forces have expelled the Austrians from Bielopelje with a loss of 2,000 men.

SEATTLE—W. S. Peachey, cashier Seattle National bank, said today that prosperity was on its way to the northwest.

LONDON—Allied action is expected as a result of a rumored understanding between Germany and Greece, in which it is thought Germany has made territorial offerings for Greek assurance that no aid will be given British and French troops.

AMSTERDAM—Three French spies were shot when caught by the Germans opposite their lines at Charleroi.

BERLIN—Empress Augustus Victoria is getting her bread with tickets from the bread office the same as all the rest of the German housewives of Berlin.

STOCKHOLM—Peace delegates still have hopes of the return of the sacred dove of peace.

SAN FRANCISCO—Fearing that the assassination of Wong Yuen-Yung will start a long war, efforts are being made to arrest his murderer.

MORTON—Heavy floods are damaging all bridges and property in this district.

CONGRESSMAN TAVENNER OF ILLINOIS WHO HAS TURNED LOOSE HIS 42 CENTIMETER AGAINST THE MUNITIONS TRUST



Representative Clyde H. Tavenner represents the district of Cordova, Ill., in congress. He is preparing to buck the munitions trust during the present session and is fighting for government manufacture of all munitions.

THE PASSING OF VILLA

Pancho Villa has given up the sword with which he hewed his way from peonage to power. The "king of Chihuahua" is dethroned. The outlaw who once led 100,000 Mexican troops has gone the way of Diaz and Huerta.

How will history write his record? Bandit he surely was. He stripped the lands he ruled of all their wealth. His firing squad was never idle for want of wretched victims.

Yet Villa was a leader of his people. History must grant him that. He rode into Mexico three years ago with a handful of malcontents and seven stolen horses. A few months later, ragged thousands called him "general."

History may even rate Villa as a reformer. A peon himself, he knew the peon had been robbed by the land-grabbing pets of Diaz. Villa knew there was land enough in Mexico for all, and he dreamed of the day when every peon would own the soil he tilled.

Centuries ago the same vision of land reform broke the power of England's feudal barons and gave birth to the sturdy yeoman class.

Villa was densely ignorant. He struck a few telling blows for the people, but he struck blindly.

Yet Villa has not fought in vain. He was unable himself to keep the promises that attracted an army to his banner. His rebellion, like Wat Taylor's, accomplished no direct and permanent reforms, but it paved the way for stronger leaders to reach the goal.

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REA FLOPS

SEATTLE, Dec. 27.—The fight waged by University of Washington alumni against the proposed modification of the Metropolitan Building Co. lease, by which the Arena would have been accepted as a "permanent" building, proved successful today.

The regents, by a vote of four to two turned down the proposal. Regent Rea, of Tacoma, who had been one of the staunch supporters of the Metropolitan Building Co.'s plan, flopped, and cast his ballot with the majority.

The regents in the minority were Shannon and Perkins, of Seattle, Wheeler was absent.

Portland, Ore., Dec. 27.—Frank W. Stone, arrested here by city detectives yesterday, denied today that he had any part in the looting of Washington industrial insurance funds, but admitted that he had been hiding in Portland since Dec. 8 under the name of Jack Edwards.

Predict Roundup of Olympia Gang

OLYMPIA, Dec. 27.—With the arrest of Frank W. Stone in Portland yesterday and with Jack Gillies and Eugene Kearns already in custody here, state officials are confident today that they have struck at the heart of the alleged crime ring responsible for the \$15,000 looting of the state industrial insurance funds.

Stone arrived in Olympia at noon today, having been brought from Portland by a special officer representing Gov. Lister. He was hurried off in a waiting taxicab from the railroad station to the city jail.

The information filed against Stone at Olympia charges him with aiding as a go-between in the forgery of state warrants. His bail is fixed at \$10,000.

Denies Guilt

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When arrested Stone said he was on the eve of telegraphing Gov. Lister that he was in Portland and on his way to Olympia to face the charges against him.

The arrest followed the appearance of a striking likeness in a newspaper yesterday. Detectives positively identified him at Broadway and Everett streets at 2 o'clock. He was found to be penniless.

Mayor Still Convalescing

Although still unable to leave his bed for any considerable period, Mayor Fawcett was reported considerably improved today. His speedy recovery is anticipated. His fever had entirely left him today.

The mayor was able to sit up for an hour Christmas day, and again yesterday. The period was expected to be longer today. He is still very weak, and was unable to participate in the big Christmas celebration that is always a feature of the Fawcett home.

Christmas tree and entertainment for young people by Tacoma lodge of Moose; in Moose hall; evening.

What's Doing Today

Christmas tree and entertainment for young people by Tacoma lodge of Moose; in Moose hall; evening.

Second performance of "Patience," Gilbert & Sullivan opera, by Tacoma company; Tacoma theater; evening.

Last boxing smoker of bonds; Frank Farmer vs. Joe Bonson; Glide rink; evening.

TOMORROW Opening of annual chicken show of Tacoma Poultry association; 11th and 15th and Pacific

EPIDEMIC IN CITY SHOWN BY REPORTS

Twenty per cent of the deaths occurring in Tacoma during December were caused directly by la grippe. This was ascertained today from an examination of death certificates filed by Tacoma physicians with the city health bureau.

Although the number of deaths from la grippe is unusually high for this city, it does not compare with the proportion of victims of the disease in other parts of the country, according to dispatches to The Times.

In Philadelphia there were 650 burial permits issued during the first three days of last week, and nearly all of them were cases of la grippe or resultant diseases.

Up to noon today 65 deaths had been officially reported for December in Tacoma. There have been more deaths than this number, but many physicians are slow in filing the certificates.

Of this number, examination today showed that 13 or 20 per cent had been caused from la grippe. In many cases the exact cause of death was named as some other physical weakness or ailment, but la grippe was given as the direct cause of that ailment.

More than half of the 13 deaths were due to pneumonia, resulting from la grippe.

Wall Said There Was None. These figures somewhat conflict with published statements of Health Officer Wall, who has announced that there is no la grippe in Tacoma, and that those sufferers who thought they were victims of the disease were in reality only suffering from bad colds.

Several physicians boldly signed the death certificates with the word "la grippe" as the cause of death.

Tacoma is hit more lightly than any other community yet reported, despite the unusual prevalence of the disease here. In the east whole communities have been stricken, with enormous death tolls.

Butte Badly Stricken. In Butte, a few days ago, it was reported that there were 15,000 cases of la grippe. In Chicago there are 85,000 school children affected.

In most Washington and Oregon cities the schools have been closed because of the large number of children ill. In Tacoma, however, the number of absences from school because of la grippe and colds this year is only a trifle greater than the usual number.

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FOR BIG AMERICA FAMILY

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 27.—The Monroe doctrine is as sacred a principle as when it was first proclaimed, declared Secretary Lansing before the Pan-American scientific congress today.

The Monroe doctrine is a national policy of the United States, said Lansing. "The feeling that American republics constitute a group separate and apart from other nations, with common ideals and aspirations, draws them together into the American family of nations."

He reiterated President Wilson's declaration that the United States will not exercise its might in wresting territory from her neighbors.

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TO CLOSE TIDEFLAT STATIONS

Two fire engines protecting the tideflats and manufacturing districts of Tacoma will be taken out of service next Saturday morning, together with the discharge of 11 men from the Tacoma fire department, as part of the retrenchment crusade demanded by Commissioner Mills by the city council when it made up the 1916 budget.

The little fire station at No. 37th and Cheyenne streets, consisting of a two-horse horse wagon and three firemen, will be discontinued, leaving the entire Point Defiance peninsula to the protection of No. 13 station, No. 55th and Proctor.

These announcements were made today by Commissioner Mills in the form of a circular letter sent out to every fire station.

Eight Horses to Be Sold. The engines at No. 12 fire station, on the tideflats, No. 4 station on the East Side, will be put into storage Jan. 1. This will mean that eight fire horses will be out of work, and will be sold.

150,000 DEAD IN ALBANIA

ROME, Dec. 27.—At least 150,000 Albanians have starved to death during the past year, and a similar fate awaits an equal number next year, according to a statement made today, by W. W. Howard, who has just returned from the stricken districts. He distributed 200 tons of flour among the sufferers.

The crops have been a failure for the past two years," he said, "and, moreover, the population of one million people have been increased 200,000 by Serbian refugees, and 20,000 Austrian prisoners."

WOODIE LAST OF LISTED WILSONS

President Woodrow Wilson, who will be 69 years old tomorrow, is by virtue of the letter W at the beginning of his given name, the very last of the ninety-three Wilsons listed in Who's Who in America. The record of his life record taken up only three inches of Who's Who, while the record of James Woodrow Wilson, settler and politician, is accorded an inch and a half.

Three Cops to Go. Three members of the police department will be discharged Jan. 1 to reduce expenses in that department. Commissioner Mills said today that he would give out the names Tuesday.

Talk o' the Times

You can check 'em off on the fingers of one hand—then DRYERELL.

Mrs. Maria Clingman of Prosser, Ill., admits her age to be 706 years, which shows all women are not alike.

Don't blame us; we didn't start that puzzle; we just passed it along to you.

The wages of sin are paid by the sinner.

The only point to some of these remarks is a period.

A Monroe, Wis., judge rules a wife must be able to cook. But it's up to the old man to furnish the dough.

The average fellow who has money to burn is the one who has long ago learned not to burn it.