

EPIDEMIC SPREADS TO INSTITUTIONS

28 STRICKEN AT THE ELIDIA ORPHANAGE.

Seven Cases at Childrens' Home—Boys Reformatory and County Home Quarantined.

Rev. L. B. Compton, superintendent, two assistants, and each of the 26 children at the Elidia orphanage are ill with the influenza. The disease made its appearance at the orphanage and soon 25 of the 26 were taken sick. From this number the superintendent and two assistants contracted the disease and now the institution is under quarantine.

It was stated last night that the disease is in a mild form and that none of the children has pneumonia. Additional help has been secured and a sufficient number of nurses have gone to the institution to care for those suffering with the influenza, and the opinion was expressed late last night that none of the children would develop pneumonia.

One six-year-old boy, Edward Ledford, was transferred from the childrens' home yesterday afternoon to the Mission hospital, he having a serious case of influenza-pneumonia. Seven other children at the home were reported to be ill with the "flu" yesterday.

ARTILLERY AND TANKS ARE POPULAR BRANCHES

Of the 14 Branches of Army Service Now Open These Attract the Largest Number.

George W. Garrison, of Weaverville, enlisted yesterday at the army recruiting station for three years in the coast artillery corps and was sent to Fort Thomas, Ky., where he will receive some preliminary training and later be transferred to a coast fort. There have been many enlistments in the coast artillery corps and also the tanks corps. There are at present 14 branches of the service open for enlistments and the latter is one of the most interesting and popular of all.

After the war, realizing the part the tank corps had played and the importance and necessity of maintaining this arm of the service on a permanent basis, steps were accordingly taken by the war department to bring this about and at present the tank corps is an assured fact, being located at Camp Meade, Md., which is the only camp of its kind in the United States and all enlistings in this branch of the service are sent to Camp Meade.

FIGG ADDRESSES MENS' CLOTHIERS

Suggests Policy for Reducing Price of Clothing.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.—Increased production, more efficient distribution and stabilization of prices are necessary to reduce the price of clothing, dealers in mens' wear today informed Howard Figg, who is in charge of the department of justice campaign to reduce the cost of living.

Representatives of the clothing trade concluding a two-day conference, adopted resolutions pledging co-operation of the manufacturers, merchants, producers and employees in the clothing industry to the department of justice, which was called upon to investigate charges of profiteering and if substantiated to institute proceedings. A committee, composed of one member from each organization, was appointed to assist Mr. Figg, carrying out the recommendations of the conference.

After the conference, the National Association of Clothiers issued a statement in which it warned that the public should not expect any material reduction in the price of clothing because of increased wages being paid by the industry.

GRAND JURY INDICTS MRS. SYBIL COCHRANE

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Feb. 2.—Mrs. Sybil Cochran, aged 16, charged with killing John J. Hale, well known farmer, Friday night near Ootewah, was indicted for murder in the first degree by the grand jury here today.

Hale was killed while sleeping in a room with five members of his household, all of whom claimed they were awakened by the shot, but were unable to ascertain its source. The Cochran girl was among those in the room at the time and she was arrested because it is charged by members of Hale's family that she had a quarrel with Hale some days preceding the killing.

COMPLETE JURY FOR TRIAL OF I. W. W.'S

MONTE SANO, Wash., Feb. 2.—Twelve men were in the jury box when adjournment was taken tonight in the trial of eleven alleged Industrial Workers of the World charged with the murder of Warren O. Grinnam, one of the victims of the Centennial armistice day shooting. Six of the 14 peremptory challenges allowed the prosecution and the defense had been exercised. It appeared today that testimony might be started Tuesday.

YOUNG MAN HELD FOR KILLING HIS WIFE

Stanley Sawyer of Robbinsville Says He Shot Wife While Playing With the Gun.

News has been received here of the killing in Robbinsville, county seat of Graham county, of Mrs. Stanley Sawyer, who is said to have been killed by her husband, when she had failed to place a knife and fork at his plate at meal time. Sawyer was arrested and is now in jail without bond at Robbinsville, the report states.

Only meager details of the shooting have been received here, but these indicate that Sawyer, who is well known in that section, came to his meal and not finding his knife and fork at his plate, requested them of his wife. She is said to have turned to pick up their small baby, evidently planning to take the baby with her to get the knife and fork, when she was shot and fell dead. Sawyer claimed the shooting was accidental, that he had pulled his gun from his pocket and was playing with it when it accidentally went off.

Sawyer is said to be 18 years of age, the son of Will Sawyer, of Robbinsville, and to have borne a good reputation heretofore. His wife was very young also and before her marriage was a Miss Williams.

PYTHIAN HEAD TO ARRIVE HERE TODAY

Will Be Met By Committee from Local Knights of Pythias Lodges and Given Luncheon.

Supreme Chancellor Charles S. Davis of the Knights of Pythias, whose home is in Denver, Colo., will arrive in Asheville this morning and will be met by a special committee from the Asheville and Pisgah lodges. Owing to the ban on all general gatherings the special entertainment planned in honor of the supreme chancellor, has necessarily been called off, but small groups will visit Mr. Davis at his hotel during the day.

A luncheon will be tendered Mr. Davis, but only a few members of the committee will be in attendance. While in the city Mr. Davis will confer with the officers of both local lodges and plans for the year will be considered.

Several Knights yesterday expressed regret over the necessity of calling off the entertainment planned for Mr. Davis, owing to the fact that the visit of the grand chancellor has been a long-anticipated event. D. W. Shreffel, grand chancellor, who had previously arranged to visit the local lodges with Mr. Davis, recently postponed his trip to Asheville until the district meeting which is to be held here this spring.

POTATO CLUB FORMED BY FAIRVIEW FARMERS

25 FARMERS TO PLANT ACRE OR MORE.

They Appoint Sales and Purchasing Agent—Want to Get Better Crops and Prices.

The federation of farmers of Fairview at their meeting Saturday decided to make a determined effort to increase production of Irish potatoes this year, and will try to get a club of at least 25 farmers to plant one acre or more, cultivate them carefully, and grade them for market.

These progressive farmers went still further, and selected G. L. Clay as sales agent and purchasing agent for the members of the federation of farmers, and Mr. Clay will at once take steps to buy fertilizer, seeds, wire and farm machinery and implements required by them this spring. As the crops are harvested, Mr. Clay will undertake to get the best prices for the crops as raised by the members of the federation, and when the crop of potatoes, for instance, is harvested, these will be sold to the firm of firms offering the best price for the different grades.

It is the idea of the farmers of Fairview to bring their produce closer to the consumer, and at the same time get closer to the wholesaler, which, said one of them at the meeting, releases some men working in between the consumer and the producer for more productive work.

INVALID'S CHAIR IS USED AS WITNESS BOX

David A. Lashley Comes to Superior Court in a Wheel Chair—Sawyer Awarded Charges.

Occupying a wheel chair instead of the regular witness box, David A. Lashley, in superior court yesterday testified in his own behalf in a suit brought by him against Dr. F. B. Orr. The plaintiff seeks to recover for personal injuries said to have been sustained while in the employ of the defendant and is suing for \$10,000. Mr. Lashley testified that he was carrying out the instructions of the defendant in raising a heavy column when he was injured. The jury has not yet received the case and it is probable that most of the court's time tomorrow will be taken in the hearing of the evidence in this case.

In the action of E. C. Sawyer against W. S. West, alleging fraud and seeking to recover for an automobile, the jury returned a verdict that no fraud existed in the case, and awarded the plaintiff damages in the sum of \$256.

PUPILS AND FACULTY WASTING NO TIME

Number Are Assisting Asheville Power and Light Company in Taking an Inventory.

Fifteen students and three teachers of the Asheville high school are not idle during the school holidays reinforced because of the influenza epidemic here, but are assisting the Asheville Power and Light Company in taking an inventory of its property.

The boys have been assigned the special task of counting the number of posts in the city, number of wires on each post and a considerable batch of information concerning the property of the company which is scattered throughout the city. The boys are getting some rich experience as is related in the following story: "Lord ave mercy, white folks, what are doing in my back yard?" quizzed an old colored woman, addressing one

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of the inspectors as he stood with eyes lifted gazing at the tangled mass of wires on a pole in the woman's yard. Shook for a second, but retaining his sense of humor, the high school boy replied, "Jes countin' de flu germs on dis post."

Angered, the colored woman threatened to call an officer and the student took his departure, leaving the facts unascertained behind. Manager Plummer did not flee his post.

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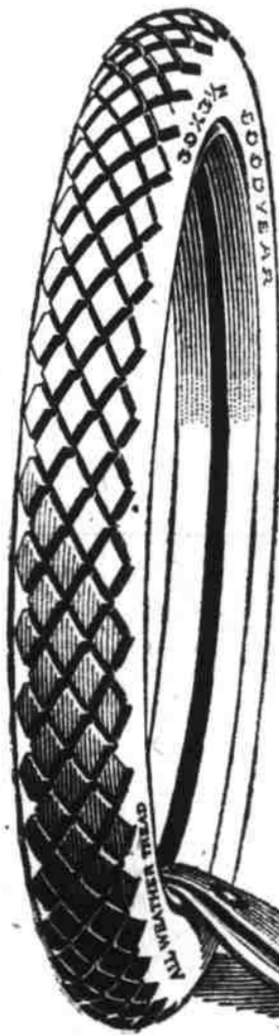
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