

LA FRANCE SECRET MAY HANG ON BODY Clackamas Officials Plan to Open Grave of Late C. M. Abbott.

EDITOR'S DEATH PECULIAR If No Corpse Is Found Coroner Wilson and Sheriff Mass Believe They Will Have Reasonable Ground for Suspicion.

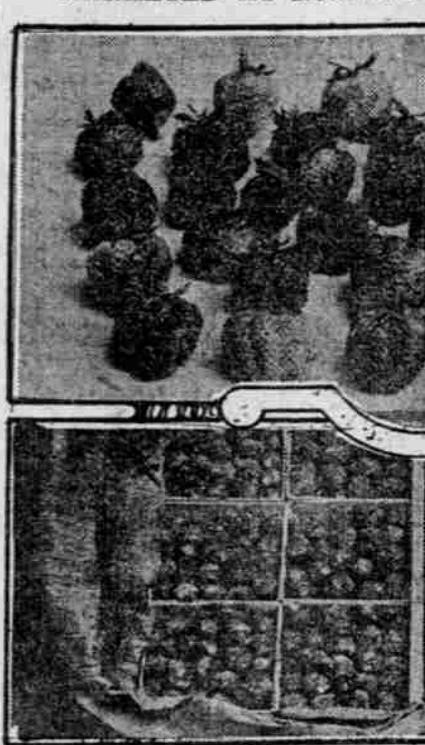
OREGON CITY, Or., May 10.—(Special.)—Coroner Wilson, of Clackamas County, on Monday may open the grave in which Charles M. Abbott, ex-editor of the Western Stock Journal, was buried on June 7, 1912. If Abbott's body is found in the grave, hopes that Clackamas County officers have of clearing up the mystery surrounding the means C. M. France used in obtaining a corpse for his insurance swindle will fall. If, on the other hand, no body is found in the grave, Coroner Wilson and Sheriff Mass believe they will have reasonable grounds to charge that La France and his confederates robbed Abbott's grave to further their own scheme.

A number of things make it seem possible that Abbott's body was used in the substitution. La France and Abbott were almost identical in stature and general appearance. While Abbott had a spot of gray hair on the top of his head, this hair could have been dyed by him after he obtained the body, if such was his plan of procedure. Abbott's grave lies close to Mountain View cemetery fence, on the outskirts of the city, and is in a location where tampering would not have been noticed easily. From the grave to the spot where the body probably was put, there is in the Clackamas River is between three and five miles, by indirect roads. Abbott Death Peculiar. Abbott died here under peculiar circumstances, in that he had no relatives in this section of the country, and after his death his father, John T. Abbott, tax attorney for the Western Union Telegraph Company, sent funds for his funeral from New York to relatives attending the funeral, though Abbott's friends in this city went en masse. Since the funeral but few people have visited the grave. Some time ago two young women of this city, Nan and Louise Cochran, visited the grave to place flowers upon it, and today both of them declared that when they went there was considerable loose earth about the grave, and that "it looked peculiar." At the time they wondered if someone had tampered with it, but concluded that this was improbable, and said nothing. Abbott's death, and the fact that no relatives attended the funeral, were widely commented upon at the time, and had La France at that time been seeking a body that could be used in his swindle, the fact in regard to Abbott must have impressed him as being favorable to his plan. Another point which leads investigators here to believe that Abbott's body may have been used is that the body found the last of June in the river, and subsequently identified as that of La France, showed that it had been partially embalmed. Formaldehyde was found in it, and this fluid was used in embalming Abbott's body, as it was necessary to keep it in the morgue some time while his family in New York was being reached by telegraph. Theory Thought Plausible. Undertaker Holman, who had charge of the preparation of Abbott's body for burial, is skeptical about the grave-robbing theory, but admits that it is plausible. The theory has also been advanced that the body might have been that of Lloyd P. Williams, who disappeared on June 23, the same year. Little credence is given this theory, however, as the condition of the corpse figuring in the La France swindle was not such as to lead to the belief that death had resulted but a week before. The condition of the body would more nearly agree with that of Abbott's, which had been in the grave nearly a month. That the use of Abbott's body would have been extremely practical for La France is what gives strength to the theory and breeds investigation. As he, he admitted that he was planning the deed for some time previous to its commission, and as he made many trips into the Clackamas and Lower Willamette valleys, to seek a place where his shrouded scheme could be put through without observation or interruption, it is believed worth investigating to open Abbott's grave.

ALBANY TO HAVE GAS SOON Portland and Detroit Capitalists to Build Plant Within Year.

ALBANY, Or., May 10.—(Special.)—That a gas plant will be established in Albany within a year by a party of capitalists residing in Portland and Detroit, Mich., is now almost a certainty. G. L. Rauch, of Portland, who represents the men planning to establish the plant, has been here for several days and it is understood that arrangements with the City Council for the granting of a franchise are nearing completion. Under the terms of the proposed franchise the company must begin work by January 1, 1914, and have the plant in operation within a year from that time. It is said, however, that if the franchise is granted, work will probably begin this summer and the plant rushed to completion. A longer time is granted in the franchise merely to provide for unexpected delays. The franchise will contain a provision whereby the city can purchase the plant when desired. The company will also be required to furnish a \$5000

FIRST HOME-GROWN STRAWBERRIES OF SEASON ARE MARKETED AT ROSEBURG BY DILLARD GROWER.



ROSEBURG, Or., May 10.—The first crate of home-grown strawberries marketed in Roseburg for the season arrived there Thursday from Dillard, six miles south of Roseburg. The berries were grown by M. L. Norris, a Dillard rancher, and are among the finest marketed here in years. The berries are large, and of a delightful flavor. Dillard has held the record for the early marketing of strawberries for several seasons and this year was no exception.

COLLEGE GIVES AID IN THE AESTHETIC WORK Demand for Assistance in Beautifying Grounds is Growing Rapidly. CALLS COME FROM FARM

OREGON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, Corvallis, May 10.—(Special.)—That the district schools of Oregon may ultimately have artistically planted lawns and thoroughly equipped playgrounds; that every Grange so desiring may have its grounds developed in keeping with the natural surroundings according to the plans of an expert landscape gardener; that rural community centers may be properly laid out and have the buildings well grouped and designed; that every progressive farmer in the state may secure practical aid in the improvement of his home is the object of the enlarged scope of the extension work in landscape gardening outlined by the Oregon Agricultural College in response to a largely increased demand for such service. In reviewing the work done by the college during the past few years it is found that the requests for assistance and instruction were limited to urban improvement clubs and to the directors of a few of the most progressive schools in the state. At the present time, however, individual farmers, Granges and other rural organizations seem to have launched a statewide contest in the beautification of residence property and public grounds. School Held Point of Focus. "As progress in scientific agriculture in our state is becoming more and more rapid it is but natural that various societies and communities should lead in campaigns for social service and community improvement work," said A. L. Beck, professor of landscape gardening in discussing this branch of extension work. The school is the center of community interest, usually serves as the focusing point of community pride, and from the school seasons of civic improvement are carried directly to every household in the neighborhood. "Many of our rural school grounds must also be playgrounds, and we usually find bare dirt areas where the boys attempt to play baseball while the girls will, perhaps, sit around the building. This situation could easily be remedied by providing different forms of playground apparatus." But the activities of the college experts is not limited to the solution of school and playground improvements. Consideration is also given to the requests of villages and towns for help along various lines. In the development and improvement of any social community the question of the growth of village or town is always uppermost in the minds of those looking to the real esthetic and beautiful development of the community. In connection with this growth, the arrangement of streets, width of streets, street lighting, the small village improvements, and larger public grounds in the way of parks should be considered. Many of our smaller towns own a certain amount of property now that is being neglected for park purposes in the future, and in the handling of this land it is often times so worked over as to ruin many of its most valuable natural features. Buildings To Be Considered. Not only do we have the vacant public property to consider but there should also be a keen community interest in the surroundings of our public buildings, churches and lodge halls. It is beyond argument that the farm-er today is to be envied. He has the best of nature's gifts surrounding him. It is in an effort to discharge its full duty toward those who are interested in employing the agricultural sciences for landscape beautification as well as in the production and marketing of crops and in the solution of home problems that the college is sending out its specialists to advise in this particular line. Often it is feasible to handle this work by correspondence alone but whenever possible the members of the college staff who are trained in the questions relative to the development of school grounds, playgrounds, town and village improvements, the laying out of grounds surrounding public buildings and the arrangement of rural social centers are co-operating with the various people interested in such lines of development to the end that these improvements may be brought about in the most satisfactory and permanent manner.

It's Strange When One Knows the Facts that so many young men, who want snap and style in their clothes, and who appreciate the economy of quality, cling to the grandfatherly idea of made-to-measure clothes. Clothes-making has advanced far beyond that stage; ready clothes like Hart Schaffner & Marx are better than the average made-to-measure; at \$25, for instance, you'll find these suits, with fabrics, tailoring, style and fit such as your made-to-measure at fifty per cent higher price doesn't equal. As for the very cheap "made-to-measure," it's not to be compared. There's another thing we call your attention to—it's the balance of your wearing apparel you'll need. You'll find every standard make of any importance here in Hats, Shirts, Neckwear, Underwear, Hosiery, Gloves, etc. Better come in and see what we have for you. Sam'l Rosenblatt & Co. The Men's Shop for Quality and Service Northwest Corner Third and Morrison Copyright Hart Schaffner & Marx

WATER IS ORDERED BOILED Steps Being Taken in Chehalis to Force Improvement in Quality.

CENTRALIA, Wash., May 10.—(Special.)—Following the death of May Saunders in Chehalis Wednesday, Prosecuting Attorney Cunningham, Mayor Coleman and others are taking steps to force the Washington-Oregon Corporation to better the Chehalis water supply. A long session behind closed doors was held with an officer of the State Board of Health yesterday, but what course was decided upon has not been announced yet. The Chehalis Mayor has ordered all water for domestic use boiled, and the public drinking fountains have been shut off. The schools were without drinking water Thursday and Friday.

ALLEGED THIEF NOW BLIND John Carroll, Formerly of La Grande, Loses Second Eye.

BAKER, Or., May 10.—(Special.)—When John Carroll goes to trial for the alleged attempt to break into The Live-and-Live Drugstore he will be blind, as the result of being shot during the alleged attempt two months ago. The man came here from La Grande with a wife and two small babies to search for work. Unable to get it, he is said to break into the store and was shot in the face by Penney Currey, son of the owner of the drugstore. His left eye was instantly put out and today the other eye was removed. His wife and little ones are being cared for by a charitable organization and their plight is pitiful.

HILLSBORO FOLK GO ABROAD.

HILLSBORO, Or., May 10.—(Special.)—John Kamra, his wife and three children, left today to pass the Summer in Germany. They expect to motor through Europe and will return to Oregon this Fall. About 15 years ago Mr. Kamra bought a ranch of several hundred acres near Farmington, paying but \$1000 down and making a ten-year contract to pay the residue. He paid off the debt in a few years and today is rated as one of the wealthiest farmers in Washington County. He made his money raising timothy, clover and grain and conducting a dairy.

LYNN ROAD TO BE CHANGED Mountain to Be Avoided on Route From Foster to Cascadia.

ALBANY, Or., May 10.—(Special.)—The Lynn County Court has decided to change the route of the Lebanon-Cascadia wagon road, so that it will follow the South Santiam River all of the way from Foster to Cascadia, instead of going over the mountains for a distance of six miles as at present. It is asserted that the new road will avoid the only part of the present route which is bad in winter and will afford good all-year traffic to Cascadia. The new road will be expensive as it will be necessary to blast a roadway out of solid rock over part of the course. The old road is a part of the old Willamette Valley and Cascade Mountain wagon road, for many years a main highway between Eastern and Western Oregon.

BARK W. B. FLINT MISSING Alaska Fishermen's Packing Company's St. Francis Is Located.

ASTORIA, Or., May 10.—(Special.)—A wireless message was received today from the Alaska Fishermen's Packing Company's cannery ship St. Francis, stating that on Thursday the vessel was 125 miles southeast of Unimak Pass and that all on board are well. The local officials of the company are now communicating with the St. Francis to have her report the location of the bark W. B. Flint, which has been out of wireless connection from here for several days. The steamer North Star is to make a trip through the Pass to ascertain the conditions in Behring Sea and then return to stand by the company's two vessels on their journey through the pass.

Aberdeen Mayor Works Early.

ABERDEEN, Wash., May 10.—(Special.)—Mayor Eugene France is to

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REST ROOM NEW PROJECT Committee Meets With Ready Response and Matron Will Be in Charge at All Hours During Summer Season.

SEASIDE, Or., May 10.—(Special.)—A war on flies by school children, housewives, markets and grocery men and the installation of a woman's rest-room are two of the important movements which have been inaugurated by the women members of the Seaside Civic Improvement Club. The war on flies in the public market places of the town was started two weeks ago. Mrs. U. O. Webb visited the schools and made an address to the pupils, offering cash prizes to those who swatted the greatest number of flies each week. Since the movement began there has been a run on the stores for patent fly-killers and empty cigar boxes. The plan of Mrs. Webb is to have the crusaders save the flies killed during the week and bring them to her some every Saturday. They are given a brief talk on the importance of keeping physically clean and of the danger of accumulated garbage which attracts flies, which in turn cause disease. The campaign will be carried on all Summer and the prizes will be awarded each Saturday. The merchants of the town and residents have agreed to subscribe the amount of the prizes each week. The rest-room for women is to be tried out for the first time. At a recent meeting of the Civic Improvement Club a committee, consisting of Mrs. Webb, Mrs. Grimes and Mrs. McIntyre, was appointed to solicit funds for building and maintaining the rest-room. The committee has met with hearty co-operation from the business men and private citizens. The site has not been selected, but it is agreed that it will be on the west side of the Necanicum River, either on Bridge street or just off the main thoroughfare. In addition to cash donations, there have been pledges made of books for the reading-room, light by the Seaside Light & Power Company, free plumbing, water and carpenter work—in fact, all that will be necessary to get the rooms in readiness. A matron will be in charge of the rooms at all hours during the season. Park Offered Aberdeen. ABERDEEN, Wash., May 9.—(Spe-

FLY CRUSADE IS ON Seaside Club Offers Prizes for Best "Kills." REST ROOM NEW PROJECT Committee Meets With Ready Response and Matron Will Be in Charge at All Hours During Summer Season. SEASIDE, Or., May 10.—(Special.)—A war on flies by school children, housewives, markets and grocery men and the installation of a woman's rest-room are two of the important movements which have been inaugurated by the women members of the Seaside Civic Improvement Club. The war on flies in the public market places of the town was started two weeks ago. Mrs. U. O. Webb visited the schools and made an address to the pupils, offering cash prizes to those who swatted the greatest number of flies each week. Since the movement began there has been a run on the stores for patent fly-killers and empty cigar boxes. The plan of Mrs. Webb is to have the crusaders save the flies killed during the week and bring them to her some every Saturday. They are given a brief talk on the importance of keeping physically clean and of the danger of accumulated garbage which attracts flies, which in turn cause disease. The campaign will be carried on all Summer and the prizes will be awarded each Saturday. The merchants of the town and residents have agreed to subscribe the amount of the prizes each week. The rest-room for women is to be tried out for the first time. At a recent meeting of the Civic Improvement Club a committee, consisting of Mrs. Webb, Mrs. Grimes and Mrs. McIntyre, was appointed to solicit funds for building and maintaining the rest-room. The committee has met with hearty co-operation from the business men and private citizens. The site has not been selected, but it is agreed that it will be on the west side of the Necanicum River, either on Bridge street or just off the main thoroughfare. In addition to cash donations, there have been pledges made of books for the reading-room, light by the Seaside Light & Power Company, free plumbing, water and carpenter work—in fact, all that will be necessary to get the rooms in readiness. A matron will be in charge of the rooms at all hours during the season. Park Offered Aberdeen. ABERDEEN, Wash., May 9.—(Spe-

WATER FIRM ORGANIZES System for Salem and Nearby Towns Is Proposed. SALEM, Or., May 10.—(Special.)—With the view of laying a pipe line to the Santiam River and supplying pure water to the city of Salem and the state institutions, and also to Stayton, Turner, Astoria, Sublimity and other towns in the Santiam valley, the Santiam water company filed articles of incorporation here today with the Secretary of State. The capitalization is fixed at \$200,000 and the incorporators are W. E. Pierce, of Boise, Charles Theis, of Spokane, and John D. Turner, of this city. Both Pierce and Theis are capitalists, and Turner is a lawyer, being identified with the firm of Carson and Brown. Wasco County Redistricted. THE DALLES, Or., May 10.—(Special.)—The County Court has just completed the task of redistricting the voting precincts of Wasco County. Under the old system many voters were compelled to go several miles out of their way to reach the polls. In some cases a farmer would be compelled to drive 25 miles to reach the place where he had to deposit his ballot, whereas a voting place in another precinct would be only a few miles away from his home. It was to obviate such inconveniences and comply with the new state law which stipulates that not more than 200 votes shall be cast in any one precinct, that the redistricting was undertaken. One of the greatest changes was made in The Dalles district, which was formerly made up of six precincts. Hereafter there will be 16 polling places in this city. McMinnville Rose Early. McMINNVILLE, Or., May 10.—(Special.)—The report from Portland of a rose blooming unusually early this year has brought to light that a rose of the Douglas variety was discovered by its owner, Mrs. Jacob Wortman, of McMinnville, to be in full bloom on the morning of May 4. Mrs. Wortman is the mother of Frank Wortman, president of the First National Bank here.

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