

WEATHER
Highest today 83
Lowest 65
Fair

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BRUMFIELD TELLS STORY OF ESCAPE

SHERIFF STARMER AND TWO DEPUTIES ON WAY TO GET ALLEGED MURDERER

May Be Woman in Case—Officer Thinks This is Only Motive For Extraordinary Desire to Get Package Containing Ladies Wearing Apparel.

(By Associated Press).
CALGARY, Canada, Aug. 13.—Beyond admitting his identity and promising to return to Roseburg without extradition, Dr. R. M. Brumfield, arrested on a ranch 39 miles south of here, in connection with the death of Dennis Russell, maintains a stolid silence. Mounted police traced him through an order he sent from Banff to Seattle, to the express office asking that the box be expressed from Myrtle Creek to Mrs. Norman Whitney at Seattle on the afternoon of July 13, be forwarded. The box contained women's wearing apparel and other contents of practically no worth. The officers quickly located Brumfield, who turned deathly pale when confronted and held out his arms for the handcuffs. Under his mattress was found a letter in his handwriting, purporting to come from Dennis Russell and describing the latter's ride with Brumfield, telling of the accident and Brumfield's death and how he (Russell) changed clothes with the doctor and fled. The letter was not signed and was not ready for mailing.

Sheriff Sam Starmer and Deputies Percy Webb and Frank Hopkins are speeding on their way to Canada to bring back Dr. R. M. Brumfield who was arrested there yesterday upon a tip furnished by the local sheriff's office. Brumfield's arrest was directly due to his attempt to obtain the package containing women's apparel shipped from Myrtle Creek to Seattle on the morning of the murder. His reason for wanting this package cannot be fathomed unless he desired to augment the clothing it contained with additional garments and escape from Canada, on board a steamer, disguised as a woman. Regardless of his motive for attempting to secure the package, it is a fact that he wrote from Banff, Canada, on Aug. 4 to the express office at Seattle asking that the package be shipped from that office to the Canadian town. The day before the letter was mailed the package was shipped back to Myrtle Creek and delivered to Sheriff Starmer. When the letter was received at Seattle, Sheriff Starmer was notified at once and he immediately got in touch with the officers at Banff and Calgary and gave them such information as he had, together with a complete description of the dentist. It was upon this information that the capture was based.

Destination Was Banff.

The clue connecting the town of Banff with the case was received early in the search. When Dr. Brumfield went to Myrtle Creek with the package he asked that it be shipped to Banff, Canada. The agent, Mr. Tibbels, informed him that the package could not be shipped from that office to Canada, and the doctor then decided to send it to Seattle. The agent told the sheriff of the effort to ship the package into Canada but could not remember the name of the town except that it had two "s" at the end of the name. A careful search of several maps failed to reveal the town or the location until after a long search a map with a large amount of detail was located and the town discovered.

Canadian Clue Followed.

In spite of the fact that the evidence trail led into eastern Oregon, Sheriff Starmer and his deputies persisted in following out the Canadian trail, although they believed it secondary to the eastern Oregon clue. The trail was from all appearances a blind to throw them off the real track. They persisted, however, in following Canada, with circulars and information, especially in the vicinity of Calgary near which place Banff is located.

The letter written to Seattle by Dr. Brumfield was addressed from Banff, it purported to be from Mrs. Norman Whitney, to whom the package was addressed, and although the copy has not been received by the local officers it is thought that it is in the doctor's handwriting.

Stranger Passage Engaged.

Another clue, which also went astray, was a letter sent by a Canadian-Australian steamship line in answer to one addressed to them by Dr. Brumfield. This letter arrived a few days after the murder and was delivered to the local officers. From the text of this letter it was evident that Dr. Brumfield had written to secure reservations to Australia from Vancouver, Canada. Detectives were immediately placed to watch the steamships operated by this line, but no attempt had been made by the doctor to secure passage, as he evidently decided to remain in hiding until the chase had become more quiet.

Note Found in Bottle.

Another small bit of evidence bearing on the case which was suppressed by the officers was a note written on typewriter and signed by Dr. Brumfield and dropped in the Columbia river a few days following the murder. The note was dated July 16 but was not found for several days. It was picked up on the banks of the river by a woman, who turned it over to the police department. The note, although having little actual bearing on the case, shows the direction taken by the fugitive and proves that he went directly from Roseburg to Portland.

Hoisted of Ability.

It was sent by the Portland police to Sheriff Starmer. The signature was taken to a local bank, where Dr. Brumfield was a regular customer, and the bank identified the signature positively. The note reads as follows:

"Portland, Ore., July 16th, 1921.
"Whoever discovers this bottle will do me a great favor if they will notify my friends that I was not in Redmond at all and further I was not the hobo that rode on the blind baggage as the newspapers have it. I am a slicker and these guys will never get me because they are too damned slow to catch cold. I will be in St. Paul at the Hotel Ryan on the 21st of July and from there I am going to Buenos Aires.
"Cordially yours,
"R. M. BRUMFIELD."

Signature Perfect.

So far as the suggested itinerary was concerned it was such an open blind the officers took no notice of it. An effort was made to trace up the note but this failed. The note was written on a piece of yellow paper, badly stained by oil and grease, a typewriter was used for writing the text of the note and the signature was in pencil. The signature was very plain and when compared with the handwriting of Dr. Brumfield left no doubt that he had signed the note with his own hand.

To Be Well Guarded.

Dr. Brumfield will be returned to Roseburg as quickly as possible. Deputies Percy Webb and Frank Hopkins left the city on train No. 54 last night and were joined in Eugene by Sheriff Starmer, who will make the trip with them. The prisoner will be very carefully guarded and every precaution will be taken to prevent any effort of escape. He will be carefully guarded on the way back to Roseburg. It is doubtful if he will arrive here before the end of next week.

May Be Woman in Case.

That there may be a woman in the case, is the intimation of the officers, who are following out that clue, although they have announced no definite evidence in this regard. It is known that the pink shirt which was contained in the package was purchased by a young woman, who was seen in the city several days prior to the murder. The officers would not divulge any names but stated that the woman had been seen in the doctor's office.

Examined Skirt.

On the day prior to the murder Dr. Brumfield was in Burchard's Square store looking at the pink silk skirt. He was informed that it was too small for his wife, and left without it. Next morning the woman who had been seen in his office formerly, appeared in the store and examined the skirt. While she was looking at the skirt Dr. Brumfield appeared and asked for the pack-

Gives Details of His Flight From the Scene of Murder

Brumfield, Haggard in Appearance, Described His Journey From Roseburg.

WILLING TO COME BACK Fugitive Squares Shoulders And Says is Ready to Return to His Home Town and Tell District Attorney Everything.

District Attorney Neuner today stated that the Royal Northwest Mounted Police would undoubtedly get the reward for the capture of Brumfield. The county court has offered \$1000 and Governor Olsen will recommend an additional \$1000 to the legislature to be awarded by the state. Although the tip that led to the capture of the murderer was furnished by the sheriff's office here, the reward will go to the men making the capture.

Extradition Takes Time.

It will probably be at least ten days before Brumfield can be returned here, the officers state. They are making an effort, however, to bring him back as soon as possible.

CALGARY, Alberta, Aug. 12.—(Special to News-Review by Associated Press).—"I am willing to waive extradition and go back to Roseburg tonight. I will tell District Attorney Neuner everything I know," said Dr. R. M. Brumfield in an interview to a special correspondent of the Portland Telegram today.

Clad only in a dirty khaki shirt, a pair of tattered overalls, and old army boots, and with a week's growth of hair on his face, Dr. Brumfield, the captured murderer of Dennis Russell, told the complete story of his escape from Roseburg on the night of July 13, the fatal night, and his experiences while working his way across the Canadian continent up to the time of his arrest.

HAD READ OF MURDER.

Beyond saying that he had read of the murder in Portland, Seattle and Vancouver newspapers during his trek across Oregon and Canada, Brumfield steadfastly refused to discuss the crime, but talked freely of his movements from the night of July 13th to August 12th, just one month to a day after the crime was committed.

TELLS OF ESCAPE.

This is his story: "When night came on the evening of July 13th, I started from Roseburg and walked to Oakland. I waited around Oakland until train time and then I rode on into Portland and stayed there for several hours.

"I decided to keep on going north and rode right through to Seattle. I stayed around there for a day and decided to cross into Canada. I arrived in Vancouver the next day and lay around there for another two days. I then decided to go to Alberta, so I got on a train and rode to Lake Louise, where I again stopped for several days. At each place I stopped I secured newspapers and read of my escape.

GOES TO CALGARY.

"From Lake Louise I went to Banff and Calgary. I applied for work at a labor bureau here, giving the name of Norman Whitney. Unable to get work at that time, I waited around for a couple of days and was then directed to Vader's farm at Midnapore."

NOT DISCUSS MURDER.

"Who are you supposed to have murdered?" Dr. Brumfield was next asked by the newspaper man.

IS SHOWN LETTER.

Dr. Brumfield was next shown a letter which was found in his belongings when arrested. The letter had been written by him and he had attempted to make it sound like it had been written by Dennis Russell.

"Is that your handwriting?" he was asked.

"Yes," replied Brumfield. "I was going to send it to District Attorney Neuner as soon as I made some changes."

"Are you willing to waive extradition and go back to Oregon without a fight?" he was then asked.

Brumfield suddenly squared his shoulders and replied in a clear voice: "I am willing to waive extradition and go back to Roseburg tonight. I will tell George Neuner, the district attorney, everything I know. Beyond that I do not care to say anything more."

PITIFUL APPEARANCE.

Dr. Brumfield when interviewed in the jail here presented a most pitiful appearance. Although apparently in good health he wore the haggard look of a hunted man and showed plainly the effects of his experiences during his flight from the scene of the murder to the place where he was captured.

He seemed relieved to know now that he is going back to his home town and expressed himself as willing to make a clean breast of the whole affair.

MRS. BRUMFIELD TALKS.

"It is not true," said Mrs. Brumfield this afternoon when Dr. Brumfield's statement was read to her by a News-Review representative. Further than denying the statement and expressing her opinion that the man captured is not Brumfield, she refused to discuss the matter.

MESSAGE TO WIFE.

CALGARY, Aug. 13.—Dr. Brumfield spent a sleepless night and was given medical attention this morning. He is extremely nervous and his voice was scarcely audible today.

"Send my love to my wife and three children and tell them that everything will be all right," was all he would say this afternoon.

Brumfield waived extradition rights today and promptly signed the waiver form.

The News-Review late this afternoon informed Mrs. Brumfield of the doctor's message to her and the children. She said: "I have always had the utmost faith in my husband and I know everything will come out all right. I am so glad that he has sent that message and I want to thank you sincerely for communicating it to me."

LINGERIE LURES DENTIST TO UNDOING.

(By United Press).
PORTLAND, Aug. 13.—Dr. Samuel Kohs, expert criminal psychologist, declares that the yearning of Dr. Brumfield for feminine underwear proved the alleged murderer's undoing. This sort of desire, he declares,

PORT OF UMPQUA RECALL ELECTION FAILS; COMMISSIONERS ARE RETAINED

Vote of Precincts Outside of Reedsport Fails Completely to Overcome Solid Support of Reedsport Voters—League Will Continue Fight.

The first recall election ever attempted in Douglas county failed last night, when the combined votes of the precincts outside of Reedsport failed to overcome the solid support of the Reedsport voters for Commissioners J. R. Browne and Joseph Butler and these two men were retained in office by a large majority. Reedsport went practically unanimous for its candidates, while the outside precincts went as strong for their men. The returns, completed shortly before midnight last night, were as follows: J. R. Browne, 588; Joseph Butler, 592; J. P. Christie, 368; John Henderer, 389. The precincts in which the vote was taken were Reedsport, Gardiner, Ash, Scottsburg and Elkton. The big voting was done in Reedsport and Gardiner, where there was an intense and bitter fight.

The following table gives the vote by precincts, the smaller precincts being grouped into one total:

Candidate	Reedsport	Gardiner	Out-
J. R. Browne	526	39	23
Joseph Butler	525	53	14
J. P. Christie	27	113	228
John Henderer	25	107	256

GARDINER, Ore., Aug. 13.—(Special to the News-Review).—For the past three weeks the Port of Umpqua has been the scene of one of the bitterest and hardest fought recall elections ever staged in the state of Oregon. On neither side has quarter been asked or given. Character and motives have been assailed, old friendships snapped in twain, families divided and estranged, and the charges and counter-charges have thundered and echoed over this hitherto quiet and peace-loving community until the din of battle rings in the ears of the most remote homesteader in this sparsely settled district.

History of Fight.

The Port of Umpqua is situated in western Douglas county and includes the city of Reedsport, its metropolis, and the smaller towns of Gardiner, Scottsburg and Elkton, as well as the settlers along the river bottoms of the Umpqua and Smith rivers. At the beginning of the "Umpqua bond fight," as it is locally known, the port commissioners were all residents of the Reedsport precinct. About the middle of April the port commission proposed to build a suction dredge to improve the conditions of navigation, etc., and on April 30th, 1921, passed a \$250,000 bond ordinance setting that purpose out and declaring an emergency and gave a Portland firm (Ralph Schneelock & Co.) an option contract for the purchase of the bonds. After this action was taken, and before the bonds were printed and delivered, a taxpayers' league was hastily organized consisting of about 200 members and residents outside of the city of Reedsport and a suit was filed enjoining the sale of the bond by J. N. Hadden of Scottsburg, F. F. Wells of Elkton, and Fred Assenbeller of Gardiner, for and on behalf of the other taxpayers.

Bond Sale Stopped.

Before the port could set the bonds printed and into the hands of the purchasers the injunction suit was served and the sale stopped. In the suit filed the taxpayers alleged that the real purpose of the bond issue was to fill the townsite of Reedsport with a suction dredge and to otherwise benefit that city and that the emergency was attached for the sole purpose of barring the voters from invoking the referendum. It is further alleged that the port held a secret meeting, sold the bonds at private sale without any advertising at a price less than the law allows, and that the port did not comply with the law in other particulars.

The port commissioners filed a motion to strike out most of the complaint on the ground that the port is a legislative body and its motions not subject to review by the courts. This motion is still pending.

Referendum Filed and Rejected.

The taxpayers filed a referendum petition on the ordinance but the port commissioners rejected it on the ground that the emergency clause barred the referendum, and refused to call an election.

The taxpayers then started the circulation of recall petitions, charging that the commissioners "had promoted the issuance of a \$250,000 bond issue without giving the voters a chance to express their will," and "were promoting the expenditure of little benefit to the district at large" and further charging "extravagance and waste of the taxpayers' money." On July 15th petitions were filed demanding the recall of Commissioners W. P. Reed, J. R. Browne and J. P. Christie. Within five days allowed by law W. P. Reed presented the county clerk of Douglas county with evidence that he had resigned on July 12th, and then an election was called for August 12th to decide the fate of Commissioners Browne and Butler. The taxpayers nominated John J. Henderer of Elkton, and J. P. Christie of Gardiner, to run on their recall ticket.

Taxpayers Publish a Newspaper.

As the only newspaper in this district was the Umpqua Courier, published at Reedsport, the taxpayers published a weekly newspaper at Gardiner to give their side of the story. This paper was called "The Port Umpqua Bell Buoy," and its avowed purpose was "to warn the people of the reefs of public extravagance in port affairs." In addition to the publicity given through these two papers, each side had its cause championed through the district, and J. H. Hawkins of Reedsport, attorney for the port, and A. K. Peck of Marshfield, attorney for the taxpayers, have debated, harangued, charged and counter-charged wherever their respective constituents were strong enough to guarantee them a dignified entrance and exit.

A. K. Peck had the temerity to appear at Reedsport and was hooted down by cries of "Mob him," and "Throw him out," but he was safely escorted from the city under the protecting wing of some of the East Gardiner taxpayers.

Bitter Charges Made.

Besides charging waste and extravagance, the taxpayers hotly contended that the dredge project was a selfish scheme to fill the townsite of Reedsport and that the attitude of the commissioners in not referring the bond issue to a vote was despotic and tyrannical. The Reedsport faction as hotly counter-charged that the taxpayers' move was a scheme to block progress and development of the harbor and was backed by the Southern Pacific, Coos Bay interests, and the timber barons.

Both Sides Rally Forces.

The Reedsport precinct has about half of the voters of the district and solidly supported the commissioners and defeated the recall move. "They shall not stop our march of progress." The taxpayers' league rallied its forces in the other towns and precincts with the cry of "No taxation without representation."

Will Election Settle Controversy?

Whether this election will settle the "Umpqua bond fight," is also hotly controverted. The Reedsport faction says a victory for them will prove the people are with them and a defeat will end the matter. The taxpayers say the bond issue was illegal and should have been referred to a vote, that the election will settle nothing, and regardless of the result they will not be content until the highest court in the land declares the commission can avoid the referendum by the emergency clause. Tense Situation Becomes Amusing.

As the date of election neared the feeling arose to a fever pitch and social as well as diplomatic intercourse between the adjoining towns of Reedsport and Gardiner was completely severed. Anonymous and threatening letters were passed and dark references to the Ku Klux Klan were frequent. On the foggy morning of August 12th, the taxpayers filed a referendum

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