

La Grande Evening Observer

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DEFENSE AIMS TO PERFECT CHAIN OF SELF DEFENSE ABOUT PARKER

TRIAL ADJOURNED AT NOON UNTILL TOMORROW MORNING

Wife of Defendant Said to be Anxious to See Husband Convicted on Charge

With a court room full of witnesses and spectators, with the attorneys for each side keenly champing the bit, as it were, with every eye centered on the witness stand and all members of the jury straining every nerve to hear and see all that was transpiring, Circuit Judge J. W. Knowles continued the trial of the State of Oregon vs. Jess Parker this morning.

Two witnesses of last evening were recalled for brief questioning. One was Mrs. Parker, wife of the accused man, and the other was Everett Bussears, an eye witness to the murder. Neither witness was severely cross questioned this morning, but it is believed each of them will be used once more, possibly several times during the trial, for it would seem according to those who are thoroughly familiar with the case, that upon these two witnesses much depends.

Lawyers in Good Trim.

All the attorneys present are alert and watching every movement. John L. Rand, who is to assist in the prosecution, will not arrive until this evening and Col. Ivanhoe is handling the case alone so far. The defense has T. H. Crawford and C. E. and George Cochran and they are grappling hard with the prosecution on every detail.

Will Claim Self Defense.

The only thing that will save Jess

Parker from conviction at least of manslaughter will be the plea of self defense. It is believed the attorneys for Parker are weaving a strong chain with that end in view and ere the final witness will have been examined it may be plain that Porter, the murdered man, not only rushed at Parker but that he also held a gun in his hand as he made that rush. It is admitted that if the defense can establish such a fact the prosecution will have a hard time to break it down. But there are those from Elgin who claim that such a chain of evidence can be made to hold together.

Wife's Devotion Flags.

According to all melodramatic rules when tragedies are enacted the wife of a man stands by him to the end. In the present case it seems to be different, for although Mrs. Parker has been on the witness stand and attorneys for the defense stopped her because of the old statute which prevents a wife from testifying against her husband, nevertheless her acquaintances assert that Mrs. Parker if given the opportunity would render damaging evidence against her husband. The woman's father was killed and the hand that fired the fatal shot was the hand of her husband. It is a case of testing the two love strings—one of blood tie and the other of legal tie, and apparently Mrs. Parker

clings to the blood relationship.

To make the case all the more complicated there is a little child—a boy of tender years. His father is Jess Parker, whose hands are now stained with human blood and his mother is the daughter of the man who was killed. Requests that the boy be brought into the court room have been denied by Judge Knowles, and while the effort may be renewed doubtless the court will hold firm and keep the innocent little fellow out of the unfortunate tragedy as much as possible.

Dr. Kirby Testifies.

Following the questioning of Mrs. Porter and Everett Bussears this morning, Dr. E. G. Kirby was placed on the stand and told the story of how he answered the professional call and rendered professional services to the wounded man. How Porter had lived a number of hours after the shot entered the left nipple and tore away a part of the lung, how finally temporary searing the arteries and blood vessels gave way and the lung filled with blood causing death. The bullet was never removed for the coroner's jury did not request it.

Joe Baker is a Sharp Witness.

Joe Baker, a young man who was in the employ of Porter on August 5th when the murder occurred, was called to the witness stand and he was a careful and deliberate witness. He guessed at nothing and if he could not remember details he was frank in his admission. Sometimes it almost appeared as though he was trying to vex the attorneys, but evidently such was not the case, for the questions led to matters of which he was certain his answers were clear and decisive. Baker was with Porter at supper the evening of the shooting. The two men went from the house to the shop, where they were changing a tank and repairing a part of the separator. He said a woman came from the house to the shop. He saw the woman but would not admit that she was Mrs. Porter. Immediately after the trouble arose between Porter and Parker. It was then twilight and although there were at least four eye witnesses to the shooting, no one has said he saw a gun in the hands of Parker. It is claimed the blaze from the pistol was plainly seen in the semi-darkness.

Defense Springs Surprise.

While Baker was feeling his way very cautiously on the witness stand, being careful not to claim more than he could stand for, Attorney Cochran called his attention to a conversation said to have occurred between Baker and Bob Mays of Elgin in which Baker is alleged to have said: "Porter rushed up to Parker and Parker's wife rubbing his hands, when Mrs. Parker said, 'go back father, we don't want any trouble here,' Parker kept approaching and Parker shot him."

This conversation is said to have occurred in front of Stoop's Cigar store in Elgin and at the time Baker was mounted on a horse. Baker would not admit that such a conversation had ever taken place.

Cochran then introduced another conversation which is said to have had with Jess Smith in which Baker is alleged to have said: "Porter went running toward Jess spitting upon his hands." Baker did not remember of having made this remark either.

Baker was excused from the stand just before the noon hour and Dr. M. K. Hall of La Grande was called.

Dr. Hall gave expert testimony to the effect that such a wound as Porter received would cause death.

The attorneys wished more time to consult witnesses and prepare to further enter into the trial and Judge Knowles adjourned court until tomorrow morning.

BALLINGER GIVEN EXONERATION BY REPORT

FINALLY AND SUFFICIENTLY EXONERATED IN MAJORITY REPORT FILED TODAY.

TWO MINORITY REPORTS

Secretary of the Interior is Given a Clean Sheet by Majority of the Investigation Committee. Says that his Conduct Was Not Unbecoming to an Officer—His Connections With Cunningham Claims All Right.

Washington, Dec. 7.—Absolutely and final exoneration of Richard A. Ballinger of the charges which resulted in a congressional investigation is contained in a majority report of the investigation committee presented to congress at noon today.

The findings of the committee is summed up as follows: "Ballinger was not an enemy nor is he hostile to a reasonable and judicial policy of conservation, that no ground whatever has been shown justifying the opinion that he was unfaithful or was an inefficient public officer."

The investigation was precipitated by the charges of Gifford Pinchot last winter, and while the minority reports of the committee have been filed from time to time, the real report carrying the real weight was not made known until today. Had the report been otherwise than favorable it was presumed Ballinger would have resigned, but now that he is fully exonerated, the general opinion in Washington is that the Seattleite will continue in his present capacity.

Two Minority Reports.

The report said the charges against Ballinger was filed by Chairman Nelson. Two minority reports were presented, one signed by four Democrats and one Republican, and the other by Congressman Madison.

Auto Tire Without Rubber.

Washington, December 7. (Special)—Tidings from England herald the invention of an automobile tire with all the good qualities of a pneumatic tire but containing no rubber. This remarkable step in the progress of auto improvements is concisely described by Consul General John L. Griffiths in a report from London, as follows:

"The springs are made of slightly tapered strips of special steel coiled spirally in such a way that the greater part of each turn is within the preceding one, and that under sufficient compression the whole of the inner coils can be forced within the outermost one. To the surfaces of the links which roll on the ground are cemented blocks of hard composition of fiber and gutta-percha compacted under pressure, and these it is stated, can be renewed when worn away at a cost of 97 cents to \$1.22 for each wheel.

"The aim of the inventor has been to imitate the action of the pneumatic tire. An obstacle such as a stone does not cause the whole wheel to rise, as in the case with an ordinary iron-tired wheel, but is, as it were, swallowed up, the link or links immediately effected yielding by virtue of the hinges and bringing into play the resiliency not merely of one or two of the springs, but of the whole of them round the entire circumference.

"The wheel is intended for use on heavy commercial vehicles and motor omnibuses, to give them the benefit of the pneumatic tire with the employment of no particle of rubber. Another advantage claimed is immunity from side slips, while dust is sucked up to a much smaller extent than with pneumatic tires.

WOMEN STUDY POLITICS.

Recent Right Accorded to Women of Washington Creates Interest. Spokane, Wash., Dec. 7.—Since the

Mme. Tetrzzini.
Singer in Better Voice This Year Than Ever Before.



She has just won a signal victory in her squabble with Hammerstein, and is now ready to start west under any management she may select, but part of her profits will revert back to New York.

women in the state of Washington have been given equal suffrage and a club formed for studying politics, under the auspices of the Washington Political Equality league, Mrs. F. F. Emery, anti-suffragist of Spokane and actively identified with woman's clubs and charitable work here, proposes to give mere man lessons in cooking. The idea started at one of Mrs. Emery's Sunday evening dinners, when, a number of young men being present, she announced that the men would have to wash the dishes. The woman's suffrage question brought up the suggestion that she teach the men how to cook, and the hostess declared her willingness. "I only meant to joke," said Mrs. Emery, "but I am ready to make good. The men have already learned the most important part, the dishwashing. When women vote the dinners should be ready when the women come home after the strenuous day's work in uplifting the politicians, and the men should learn how to run the kitchen right way."

Referring to the fitness of Philippine for self government, he says: "There are very many highly educated Filipinos—many men of talent, ability and brilliancy—but the percentage in comparison with those who are wholly untrained in an understanding of, and the exercise of, political rights under a republican form of government is so small, and under the best and most rapid development possible under existing conditions will for a long period continue so small that it is a delusion, if the present policy of control of the islands by the American people shall continue, to encourage the Filipino people in the home that the administration of the islands will be turned over to them within the time

PHILIPPINES ARE IN FINE SHAPE EVERYWAY

SECRETARY OF WAR MAKES ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS REGARDING ISLANDS.

HOME RULE UNPOPULAR

Peace, Health and Good Will Rule Supreme in the Island—Lepers Being deported to island where there are three thousand of them—Few Want Their Own Rule But Conservatives Do Not—Many Educated.

Washington, Dec. 7. (Special)—The report of the Secretary of War upon his recent visit to the Philippine Islands has just been issued by the War Department. During the Secretary's stay in the islands, from July 24, to September 3, he inspected practically all the public institutions and army posts and held many public hearings. The administration of the various departments were found to be in a generally satisfactory condition.

The Secretary of War speaks very sympathetically of the aspirations of the Philippine people for independence and says that the public expression is very general in favor of same, but that many of the conservative and most substantial men would view such a result with consternation.

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(Continued on page eight.)

LA FOLLETTE SNUBS TAFT IN LATTER'S ATTEMPT TO PICK JUDGES FOR SUPREME COURT

Washington, Dec. 7.—After a conference of insurgents in the senate and probable consultation between them and the leader of the house and

progressives is expected today over the appointment to the supreme bench of the United States.

Senator Cummins, leader of the Senate Progressives, was given a list of men considered by the President for the positions yesterday.

Cummins will consult his colleagues and advise Taft if the list is considered acceptable by the Progressives. Taft evidently wishes that the insurgents have a voice in the selection of judges as he recognizes their strength and wants to harmonize the two factions of the party. It is understood the insurgents want George Hepper, who defended Pinchot and whom Hughes appointed judge.

Senator LaFollette as stirred up much talk on account of his refusal to meet the President at the President's solicitation to discuss the appointments of the Supreme Court. Through Secretary Norton, the President invited the Wisconsin senator, to call at the White House yesterday. It was intimated LaFollette sent him a note saying that he had only one suggestion to offer that being only men should be selected who would be certain to construe the constitution and the law with regard to the interests of the people and not those whose connections would bias their minds in favor of special interests.



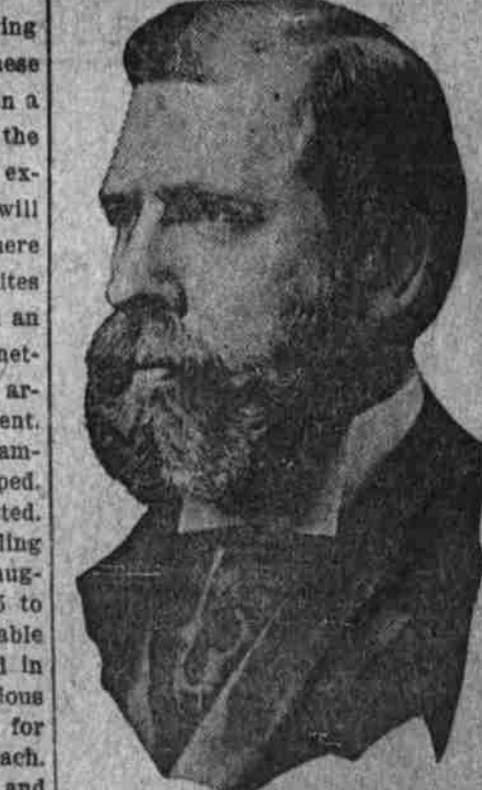
SENATOR LA FOLLETTE

The Wisconsin Senator who flatly refused to assist in appointment of Judges.

MEN AND WOMEN HAULED ACROSS PACIFIC LIKE HERDS OF CATTLE BY SMUGGLERS

San Francisco, Dec. 7.—Following the discovery of a number of Chinese coolies and slave girls cooped up in a little fourteen foot enclosure in the hold of the liner Manchuria, it is expected the government officials will soon arrest a gang of smugglers here and in China, composed of Whites and Chinese. It is learned through an authoritative source that the gang netted practically \$40,000 with the arrival of every liner from the orient.

Many girls were lured to the steamer on pretenses. Some were kidnapped. Sensational disclosures are expected. The traffic is primarily in smuggling coolies across. For this the smuggler got a fee ranging from \$5 to \$1,000. Second and more profitable activity of the gang was centered in supplying Chinatowns of the various cities with the girls. The prices for them ranged from \$2500 to \$5000 each. The last consignment of girls and men were found in a dark little locker where they had existed for twenty-three days on tea, water and bread and not allowed to leave the compartment.



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CHARLES EVANS HUGHES

The Man Most Likely to Receive the Supreme Court Endorsement by Congress.