

La Grande Evening Observer

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MURDERER SANG LOVE SONG TO THE COURT

**ELEXSON SENTENCED TO LIFE
IMPRISONMENT FOR MURDER
OF WALDO PERRY.**

INFATUATED WITH WOMAN

Sends Communication to Judge Pleading His Innocence of Murder But Admitting His Ardent Love for Mrs. Perry, and Claims Her Love in Return—Court Willingly Attaches Penalty Provided by Law.

HIS VERBATIM CONFESSION.

To the honorable court:

I, T. R. Elexson, don't deny the fact that I love Mrs. Perry, for I do with all my heart and with all my soul, and there isn't a shadow of a doubt, but what she loves me the same, but as of being my mediation between her and me, or of me, for the murder of Waldo Perry, such a fact, never existed, and if I had of went to Perrys house that night, I couldnt of possible got there before 10 o'clock and by that time Waldo would of been in bed, and Waldo wouldnt of had any reason to carry a lamp up stairs for me, for I had slept there so many times, that I would of knew where the bed was at, without him to of showed me, and just as sure as one and one is two and just as sure, as my name is, T. R. Elexson I never killed Waldo Perry.

No, honorable Judge, you can believe, or not believe me, just as you choose, but I have told you nothing... (but the Truth.)

Brazenly admitting his love for another man's wife and claiming her affections in fully as authoritative terms, Tom R. Elexson, convicted of the murder of Waldo Perry at Union on September 11, this year, this morning cemented the missing link between himself and the crime for which he is accused and for which he is now sentenced to life imprisonment, by asserting in a written statement that he loved Mrs. Waldo Perry. In the next sentence he denies he killed Perry and advances what to him is sufficient grounds to prove that he is unjustly accused and the "link" continues to be circumstantial.

It was 10 o'clock this morning and the court room was empty—or practically so—when Elexson was led before the court. The usual reading of the statute under which he is convicted opened the customary question to the defendant if there is any reason why sentence should not be named at this time. Diverting from the routine, the defendant fumbled in his coat pocket as he fought valiantly with his tears—the fight, by the way, was a victory for the man for the floodgates were kept closed and though he wined his eyes repeatedly, the tears failed to come.

Letter Read to Court.

Deputy County Clerk Ivanhoe read the missle. It was written on the Sheriff's office stationery, and though not signed, except by a cognomen, the writer's name appears at the beginning. Court and listeners pricked up their ears at the unusual confession.

Court Compliments Jurors.

Expressing his belief that Elexson's communication to the court was the untruth in so far as it applied to the actual killing of Perry Judge Knowles read the riot act to Elexson. He confesses that he would have returned a verdict identical with the one recorded, had he been a juror in the case. The evidence, said the judge, was conclusive beyond question of a reasonable doubt, that Elexson killed Perry, and that in his opinion every juror believed that he was guilty but refrained from hanging the man by returning a verdict of first degree murder, for the reason that the evidence was purely circumstantial.

Prisoner Interrupts Court.

The court was commenting on the character of a man who would violate the confidence of a man who had done him nothing but kindness (according to Elexson's testimony on the stand) when the prisoner interrupted with the statement:

"I never tried to win her love."

Judge Knowles ventured the opinion that few women showed their affections on a man who makes no advances to them or expressed a return of love.

That the jurors were justified in their verdict, and had there been an alternative in the matter. The court would affix a sentence of life imprisonment in punishment of the crime, were the substances of the judge's comments.

Sentenced to Life Imprisonment.

"It is the sentence of this court that you be placed in the state prison of this state for the term of your natural life. The prisoner is remanded to the sheriff."

Elexson turned without flinching, glanced at the sheriff and followed stolidly to his cell to await the day when the Salem prison doors will clang on his past life and he enters a life of gloom and solitude and hard labor to expiate the killing of Waldo Perry.

VOTE BUYERS AT MANCHESTER PUNISHED

**PROMINENT CITIZENS CHEERED
AS THEY RECEIVE SENTENCE.**

Accused of Buying Votes and Investigation Causes Confessions.

West Union, Ohio, Dec. 27.—Thirty-five of the most prominent citizens of Manchester, Ohio, were arraigned before Judge Blair here today on charges of having bought votes. The charges are the outgrowth of an investigation into the alleged election frauds of Adams county. All pleaded guilty and were punished by small fines. The men left Manchester in a body and were cheered as they left the town for trial. A telegram from Governor Harmon saying he would appoint a special committee to continue the investigation of frauds when the legislature meets.

Bought, Then Stolen.

Charges that the votes purchased by one party were stolen by another before they could be cast, were made to Judge Blair today during the hearings of the indictments growing out of the alleged election frauds in Adams county. Voters from the infirmary who have been paid \$6 to vote the Republican ticket, were kidnapped, and given \$10 to vote the Democratic ticket, it was alleged.

ROOSEVELT SCOFFS RUMORS.

Says He Has Never Discussed the 1912 Question With President Taft.

New York, Dec. 27.—"All talk of me supporting Taft in 1912 is most absurd," said Roosevelt today in reply to the story that he and Taft had reached an understanding regarding the presidential possibilities, two years hence. The Colonel continued saying nothing like it had been discussed, asserting he never talked to Taft concerning it.

HOLD CONFERENCE TODAY.

Methodist Ministers Hold Monthly Meeting This Afternoon.

The monthly conference of the Union County Ministerial Association of the Methodist church is in session this afternoon in the Methodist church. Among those in attendance are Rev. Stevens of North Powder, Rev. Haley, district superintendent, Rev. Winters of Union, Rev. Martin of Cove, Rev. Hamilton of Allice and Rev. Peterson of Summerville.

WOOD ALARMED AT NATION'S WEAKNESS

**ANY FIRST CLASS NATION AT LIBERTY
TO INVADE THE UNIT.
ED STATES.**

AMMUNITION INSUFFICIENT NOT WAIT STANDARD CASE

Evidence of Major General Wood Made Public Today—While He Believes the Seacoast is Well Fortified He Believes the Nation's Army Equipment—Plans for Reorganization of Militia.

Washington, Dec. 27.—Before the house committee on military affairs, Major General Wood, as chief of staff, declared the United States is unprepared to meet the hostile moves of a first class nation. The testimony was made public today.

The ammunition at the army's disposal he testified, is not sufficient to last through a single engagement. He explained the plan of organization of the militia for a more mobile force, and be ready for the field in an emergency.

He said to the committee: "It is of no use talking about our patriotism and fighting qualities. We have them, but brave men are unorganized. In the Spanish American war we lost about 200 volunteers in battle, but buried four thousand from disease."

He said the field artillery is practically useless, although he believed the seacoast is well fortified.

Wood continued, "If we were called to war tomorrow we would be practically without a field artillery or ammunition. As far as the sea coast goes, I feel we are well fortified. I don't believe the foreign fleets would attempt to sail into any port in the face of the sea coast fortifications unless the object was one of tremendous importance. Wood urged the adoption of the bill prepared by Congressman Hobson providing for a "council of defense."

EARL WEST BOUND OVER.

Placed Under Bonds of \$500 by Justice of the Peace Williams Today.

Earl West, the true blue bad man who terrified the Fir street pedestrians and shop keepers a few days ago with a bad gun play, was arraigned in Justice of the Peace Williams' court today. He waived examination and was bound over to the grand jury on \$500 bonds. He was taken to the county jail this afternoon. To avoid more trouble he was handcuffed while between falls.

AGREEMENT ON WAGES EASY TO REACH

**TRAINMEN AND CONDUCTORS
WILL GET INCREASE.**

Matter will be Definitely Decided a Few Days After New Years.

Chicago, Dec. 27.—A settlement of the demands of 75,000 members of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen and the Order of Railway Conductors employed by 61 western railroads, is looked for within a few days after New Years. It is reported the settlement will be along the same lines as the settlement with the engineers. Probably there will be a ten per cent increase. The conference suspended over Christmas was resumed today.

ELECTRIC TRUST OBJECT OF THE NEXT MOVE

**GOVERNMENT WILL INSTITUTE
PROCEEDINGS AGAINST THE
BIG CORPORATIONS.**

NOT WAIT STANDARD CASE

Disregarding Big Trust Cases Now Pending Before the Supreme Court, the Government Will Bring Proceedings Against the Electrical Corporation Charging Restraint of Trade—Ellis to Handle It.

Washington, Dec. 27.—A suit to dissolve the alleged electrical trust will be instituted as soon as papers can be drawn up, it was semi-officially announced today. Wade Ellis, former assistant attorney general, is handling the case for the government.

The government won't wait for the Supreme Court decisions of the Standard Oil and American Tobacco companies now under appeal, but will start a new issue.

The electrical companies are charged with a conspiracy to restrain trade through the operation of the patent laws. They are the General Electric, Westinghouse and several others. It will be one of the most important cases this year.

NOISE LIKE BOMBS.

Jones Dray Wagon Figures in Mysterious Accident This Morning.

Something akin to a dynamite outrage occurred about noon today when a manner deeply veiled in mystery the rear trucks of the Joe Jones van were lifted in the air by an explosion, the nature of which can not even be determined. The driver is not dead, is even not hurt, but he thought he was for a time. The explosion was a loud one and accompanied by copious volumes of smoke.

It happened on Depot street between the Elks' club and the Christian church. While driving peacefully along the street the driver was horrified to find his rear wheels hoisted several inches from the pavement. A loud report and plenty of smoke accompanied it. Stopping his team he commenced to investigate, but aside from the smoke could see nothing. The snow under the dray was not even disturbed, refuting the dynamite theory. That there was an explosion and lots of smoke is not disputable, but how it happened and what it was is another matter which the driver nor anyone else can fathom.

THE BIG RAILROAD DEED FILED TODAY

DOCUMENT A SMALL ONE, COMPARATIVELY.

Printed in Book Form and is as Brief as Possible.

A deed representing millions in money, was placed on file in the recorder's office this morning which, by the act, conveys all the property of the late corporation, the Oregon Railroad & Navigation company to the newly formed holding company, the Oregon-Washington Railroad & Navigation company. Contrary to general belief the document is not a large and voluminous one, rather a simple, printed book form deed, costing less than \$5 in the recording. This is the

first deed of the new company to be filed in the state, though all counties traversed by the railroad will have similar deeds on record shortly.

The big, bulky document comes when the rebonding takes place. All the metes and bounds of the companies holdings will be gone into in detail then, whereas the present deed merely conveys the "property of the dying company in Union county."

Recorder Snook awaits the bonding papers.

COMMENCE MONSTER HOTEL.

Greely Square Hotel Site Alone Costs Over Thirteen Millions.

New York, Dec. 27.—Work of demolishing the old buildings at the Thirty-fourth street and Broadway site, preparatory to the erection of the Greely Square hotel, the largest in the world, began today. The hotel will be 25 stories, exclusive of the basement and will contain 1600 sleeping apartments. A total investment for a site for the building cost \$13,500,000. Charles Taft, a brother of President Taft, is one of the directors of the hotel company.

Five Killed in Freight Wreck.

Gallipolis, O., Dec. 27.—Five persons were killed in a collision of two freights on the B. & O. near Salt Creek today.

ORIENT NEARING BITTER WAR IS PREDICTION

**CHINA AND JAPAN SAID TO BE
NEARING ACUTE STAGES.**

Border Outbreaks Soon to Erupt and Then Will Come War.

St. Petersburg Dec. 27.—War between Japan and China is predicted by Rech newspaper. The prediction is contained in a dispatch from Vladivok. It is alleged relations between the two countries, which has been strained since the Manchurian affairs, obtruded themselves into diplomatic questions and are rapidly becoming acute. It is said that border outbreaks will occur soon and then open hostilities will follow.

DEPRIVE MEN OF VOTES.

Colorado Women on Warpath and Plan to Send Out a Boomerang.

Denver, Dec. 27.—A bill to deprive men of the ballot in Colorado will be introduced in the state legislature if a measure now being framed by the men intended to disfranchise women, because it is alleged they have not proven to have been good voters is presented at the coming session.

That is the answer the Colorado suffragettes have for the men, it was learned today. The fight promises to be a warm one. There are both men and women in the legislature and women members have mapped out a campaign of disfranchisement which is predicted to be spectacular.

CUDAHYS NOT REUNITED.

Story Given Out a Few Days Ago Is Denied by Relatives There.

Los Angeles, Dec. 27.—"John Cudahy today denied emphatically that his nephew John Cudahy and his former wife, estranged by the Lillis incident at Omaha last year, would reconcile and remarry. Jack and his former wife are both at Pasadena where their two children are at school.

SCORES OF SHIPS WRECKED.

Hulls Washed Ashore Indicating Great Losses by Shipping.

Vineyard Haven, Mass., Dec. 27.—Scores of hulls of wrecked vessels have been driven on rocks on the coast near Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket shoals according to mariners who reached here today.

LEADER OF BLACK HAND GANG IS SENTENCED

**NEW YORK JUDGE CREATES CON-
STERNATION BY ATTACHING
HEAVY PUNISHMENT.**

PATTENZA BITTERLY SCORED

Woman and Man Who Kidnapped and Held Two Children for Ransom in New York is Given Long Sentence and Terrible Grilling—Judge Takes Life in His Own Hands in So Doing However, But is Gritty.

New York, Dec. 27.—Ignoring their threats of violence and open threats of death from other quarters, County Judge Fawcett today sentenced Stanislo Pattenza, a reputed leader of the black hand society and Mary Roph to indeterminate sentences from twenty-five to forty-nine years in prison. They were convicted of kidnapping and holding for ransom twenty days, Michael Rizzio and Giuseppe Longo, both aged eight, the children were released when the money was paid. The sentence brought consternation to the ranks of the extortionists and many are said to be fleeing the city.

Judge Daring in Speech.

The judge said to them: "It is almost unbelievable that you held two broken hearted children twenty days knowing their parents were also suffering." When sentencing the woman he said: "You have no spirit or instlet for mother love. It is stronger in beasts than in you." To Pattenza he said: "You are the brains and acknowledged king of the black hand society. Your companion would have confessed if the agent of your organization had not called at the jail and told her that if she revealed the secrets she would be killed. Criminals of your type should never be permitted to land in this country. I regret the law does not permit the death penalty for such crimes."

Will Save Much to Office.

Washington, Dec. 27 (Special).—Secretary MacCough, of the Treasury Department, noteworthy discipline of government economy has a new scheme for saving money for Uncle Sam, which is now being put into effect, and which, incidentally, is causing a loud voiced wall to emanate from a majority of the 6,000 clerks in his department.

The plan is to make it impossible for clerks to be late, without having the fact duly chronicled by a watchman, and having a corresponding amount of time taken off the clerk's annual leave of absence. Secretary MacVeagh expects to accomplish his ends by requiring all employees to enter the building by a single set of doors now being made.

In the past, there have been clerks, who, when they were late, entered the building by some door other than that they were accustomed to use. In case the watchman attempted to halt them they would wave him gracefully aside with the cheerful information that they were visitors in the city on a sight-seeing trip.

The new plan, however well it may work out, is extremely distasteful to the clerks. Those who would scorn to slich a few minutes from their government, resent the implied criticism of their honesty of purpose. Those who have used many entrances to their advantage, are peeved because they see a good thing taken from them.

And then there is another objectionable feature to the plan, according to the viewpoints of the clerks. It will soon be necessary for many of them to walk a block farther than has heretofore been necessary in order to get into the building, and from the same entrance back again in order to get to their desks.