

# ALVAH PRICE'S DEATH SAD ONE

## Young Man in Prime of Life Shot Down by Lunatic Was Well Known in La Grande.

The death of Alvah Price, caused by the act of a lunatic on the highway near Rainier Monday night, as told by the Associated Press in the Evening Observer last evening, has brought sadness to many La Grande people who know the Price family well and have strong admiration for the mother who has reared such a fine family of boys and girls, who not only have been taught to work by their mother, but are all doing well in the world.

Yesterday the Union Oil company's organization at Portland wired tender words of sympathy to the mother, brothers and sister in La Grande and the message was signed by the company and the whole working force, showing how Alvah Price stood among the people who employed him and the men and women who were associated with him as fellow employees.

The story of the murder is told by the Portland Telegram in the following detailed manner:

The Telegram says: *On Monday night*, another wounded and other passengers were thrown into panic and leaped from the machine when George Reberio suddenly opened fire on persons in the front seats of an Astoria motor bus which left Portland at 7 o'clock last night.

The killed: ALVAH R. Price, Kelso, Wash. The wounded: R. WIDING, 777 Burrard street, Vancouver, B. C.

Second Death Likely. Widing was believed last night to have been mortally wounded. Reberio is held in jail at St. Helens and the authorities of Columbia county believe he is insane.

The shooting occurred shortly after 9 o'clock at a point near Little Jack Falls, one mile north of Prescott in Columbia county on the Lower Columbia River highway.

Price and Widing occupied the front seat of the bus with the driver, Harold Oathes.

Reberio had been in a rear seat, but after getting out at St. Helens to buy cigarettes he occupied the third seat from the front.

Without warning he drew his pistol and shot Price in the back. The wounded man crumpled down against his fellow passenger, fatally shot.

Widing turned and asked Reberio: "Why did you do that?" Reberio's reply was a shot which struck Widing between the breast bone and throat.

A second shot struck Widing in the back of the head.

Passengers Leap for Life. The driver immediately applied his emergency brakes and every one in the bus leaped for his life.

Reberio made no attempt to escape and informed the other passengers who gathered about him that he would

await the sheriff. Oathes, the driver, got in a passing private car and hurried to Rainier where he informed Marshal James Jense of the killing. When Jense arrived at the scene about twenty-five minutes after the shooting Reberio had released his revolver and was sitting in the bus waiting for the sheriff. He offered no resistance when arrested. Jense took the prisoner to Rainier, where he was later turned over to Sheriff Wellington and taken to St. Helens.

Price lived until shortly after 11 o'clock and died in the office of Dr. Nelson Ross at St. Helens.

Widing was taken to a hospital in Portland.

Slayer's Grievance Fancied. Reberio, while awaiting the arrival of officers at the scene of the shooting, maintained that he had shot the two men in self-defense and later told Sheriff Wellington that the two men had insulted him. These statements were not corroborated by witnesses, who declared that Reberio's grievance was purely fancied.

The prisoner admitted that he had been an inmate of the state hospital of California. He said he was 29 years old, born in San Francisco, and had worked for two weeks in a lumber mill at Westport and also had worked at Aberdeen, Wash.

The pistol used by the slayer was purchased yesterday at Portland, he said, in anticipation of trouble. Sheriff Wellington, however, was unable to trap the man into giving the name of the seller.

Price Kelson Resident. Price had resided several months at Kelso and was a representative of the Union Oil company, whose Portland headquarters are in the Yeon building.

His mother, Mrs. Price, resides at 2211 Cedar street, La Grande, Ore. Price was 27 years of age and was a member of the Travelers' Protective association.

Coroner T. S. White expects to hold an inquest this afternoon or tomorrow. The body is being held at St. Helens.

When visited by a reporter in the St. Helens jail this morning Reberio appeared nervous and demented. He had not slept and would eat no breakfast, declaring he would not eat until he got out of jail.

Price was struck by an automobile and injured August 1, while walking up the ferry slip at Kelso, and was for some time in Good Samaritan hospital. He had been discharged from the hospital only a short time when he took the trip on which his death came.

He enlisted and served in the army from October, 1918, to December, 1920, and later was employed by the Portland Gas & Coke company just prior to his employment with the Union Oil company.

He was branch manager in charge of the station at Kelso.

The manager of the Portland office said that he had been divorced and has a daughter living with her mother but was not able to give their whereabouts.

While at Good Samaritan hospital Price gave the name of Mrs. Ethel Wise as a friend. An effort was made to communicate with her this morning, but she was said to be at Seaside.

Immediately following the shooting

a passenger was said to have disappeared in the brush along the side of the road. It is not known whether or not he has been accounted for, although a searching party sought to find him.

# RELATIONS ON GRIDIRON CEASE

(By Associated Press) SPOKANE, Wash., Aug. 23. "What style of offense are you going to use this year at Idaho?" queried Charles Duran, Gonzaga University football coach, while lunching with R. L. Matthews, now when my team meets yours in Spokane recently.

Matthews withheld his reply for a moment and then said: "Gus, I'll show you all the stuff I have when my team meets yours in Spokane November 25."

Thus ended a football relationship between the two grid coaches that has existed since they played together on the same team at Notre Dame university almost a decade ago. The two coaches were teammates and close personal friends at Notre Dame, and later when they both took up football coaching as a profession, it was their policy to pass football information back and forth between them to their mutual advantage.

Rev. W. W. Blair, pastor of the First Congregational church of Forest Grove, has been appointed instructor of Biblical literature and religious education at Pacific university.

# CAUSE OF APPENDICITIS

When the bowels are constipated, the lower bowels or large intestines become packed with refuse matter, that is made up largely of germs. These germs enter the vermiform appendix and set up inflammation, which is commonly known as appendicitis. Take Chamberlain's Tablets when needed and keep your bowels regular and you have little to fear from appendicitis.—Adv.

# BIG PLANS FOR CONVENTION

(By Associated Press) WENATCHEE, Wash., Aug. 23.—The fourth annual state convention of the American Legion will open here August 31 and continue through September 2. Convention officials predict that both in variety and wealth of entertainment provided and in interest and pertinency of business matter to be discussed the coming convention will be unusual and significant.

A feature of the convention will be a reproduction in five works of some famous battle of the recent war. The pyrotechnic display will take place in the evening of Friday, September 1. One hundred armed and uniformed men, members of the American Legion and the local national guard howitzer company, will take part in the battle picture.

At an open air smoker to take place in the evening of August 21, "Spike" Carney, billed as the heavyweight champion of the Pacific coast and "Bud" Manning, announced as flyweight champion of the Pacific coast, are scheduled to fight a ten-round contest.

Other entertainment features that will be offered include an excursion to Lake Chelan, a picnic dinner, boating, swimming, fishing and dancing. Business sessions of the convention will be held in the daytime, leaving the evenings free for entertainment.

# ILLITERACY INCREASING

(By Associated Press) HAVANA, Cuba, Aug. 4. (By Mail).—Illiteracy among white Cubans between the ages of 10 and 14 years has increased 15.5 per

cent between 1907 among blacks 23.3 per cent. In an analysis by Maria of data collected in Cuban censuses, been made public. It out that this increase occurred while Cuban government, and declared a "fundamental failure of the Cuban government."

The following figures by Diario De La M. estimate its analysis:

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