



SUICIDE OR ACCIDENT?

Ed Underhill of Medford Sustains Scalp Wound from 44 Pistol

Ed Underhill was shot in the head with a .44 Colts revolver Monday morning, at George Hoxey's home, 132 S. Grape street Medford. The bullet plowed its way across the head inflicting nothing more serious than a scalp wound, which dressed by Dr. Porter. The first report given out was that Underhill shot himself because of being jilted by Miss Vestal Hoxsey, who is separated from her husband. This report was the version given by a brother of the woman. Later Underhill, released from the hospital said it was all an accident.

After the shooting an ambulance was called driven by Ed Bostwick of the West Side livery, and Underhill refused to ride. Bostwick was reported as being Underhill's rival. Underhill explains this coincidence by saying that he has always had a dislike of ambulances, and that that was the reason he refused.

In the first report, it was stated that two shots were fired, one hitting Underhill, the other the ceiling. Later members of the Hoxsey family maintained but one shot had been fired. —Sun

Espee Brakeman Loses Life

Grants Pass, Or., Nov. 18.—E. B. McAllister, brakeman on an extra freight, southbound, was killed at Dimmick Siding, three miles from this city at about 4 o'clock this morning, he having accidentally fallen beneath one of the moving engines, but slipped and was ground to pieces. He was about 21 years old and resided in Roseburg.

Another Roseburg man, W. D. Turner, brakeman on a special freight, southbound, lost his left foot last night by falling from the top of a car under the train near Merlin. He was brought to the hospital in this city.

Buncom Repairs.

Dr. and Mrs. Warren Cameron and son Lloyd were in the city last week.

A. S. Kleinhamer spent Wednesday night in Medford.

Mrs. J. F. Crump was a last weeks visitor with Mrs. C. C. Pursell.

William Thurman is working for Mr. Bullis at Sterling.

M. R. Buck made a trip up to Ashland and back with a team last week.

Wilbur Cameron and wife were visiting at Ashland last week.

Mrs. Joseph Ginet was visiting Mrs. Fred Smith at Sterling last week.

Z. Cameron of Medford was up to his ranch on big Applegate the middle of the week.

Edwin Taylor accompanied by his sister Florence were in Medford Monday.

J. F. Crump and Frank Snider were in town Tuesday.

Al Loomus of Buncom spent Monday night in Medford.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Copple were trading in Medford Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Haney attended the dance at Ruch Friday night.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Goldsby spent Saturday night with Mr. and Mrs. L. I. Brown in Jacksonville.

Chester Pursell and Charlie Harland were in Medford Monday.

Dave Dorn of big Applegate is on the jury.

David Buckley of Ruch was on the streets Saturday.

Mr. Mrs. Paul Anderson accompanied by Minnie Walters was in Medford Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Dole of Williams creek was in our community last week canvassing.

Pat Swayne did business in town first of the week.

TO AID IN TAX LEVY

C. L. Starr of Portland to Work With County Court

C. C. Starr of Portland, former secretary of the state tax commission was in Medford to confer with the county court and assist them in making the tax levy for this year. The present state law requires the county court to make a preliminary estimate of the tax levy which must be published at least 20 days before the meeting set for discussion and protest on the part of the taxpayers. A second notice must be published ten days before the meeting. At this meeting the county court can not raise their estimate by over 10 per cent.

Under the present law every item of expense must be itemized with a view to giving the taxpayers a complete knowledge of the purposes for which the levy is made.

This year the state tax will probably be 3 or 4 times as large as last year which will bring it between 3 and 4 mills, which of course will raise the total tax this extent. —Sun

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CIRCUIT COURT NEWS

Burns Guilty of Manslaughter. Verdict Against Titus and Boggs

A jury in the circuit court Thursday returned a verdict of manslaughter against F. C. Burns, charged with the murder of Jeff Coldson, a tramp companion in country-wide wanderings, at Talent a month ago during a quarrel. The jury deliberated for eighteen hours before agreeing on their findings, being divided between manslaughter and second degree murder. For a time it looked as if the jury was hopelessly deadlocked, but a compromise was effected.

Dave Boggs and S. Titus, charged with contributing to the delinquency of Myrtle Hanscom and Beatrice Kavanaugh, girls under age, were found guilty by a jury in the circuit court, Thursday, after short deliberation. A. G. Fuller, a Grants Pass garage operator, accused of a statutory crime involving the same girls, was heard Thursday afternoon.

The girls were the principal witnesses against the men, and told of the trip to Ashland. Throughout they showed an inclination to protect the men. Their own situation they failed to view seriously. The Medford W. C. T. U. attended the trial and will help in correcting the ways of the maids who have led a somewhat giddy career the last three months.

Prefer Work to Marriage.

Declaring that they did not come to America for the purpose of getting married but to work as domestics, Cecile Diethelma, age 24, in broken English and in behalf of Hulda Kraner, age 30, who were yesterday reported from Switzerland for the purpose of wedding Herman Young, age 52 and Kasper Wirtz, age 42, two Albany widowers, only to change their minds having been led to believe that their alleged prospective bridegrooms were considerably older than they had been led to believe expressed indignation at the suggestion of matrimony, when interviewed this morning by a Democrat representative at Young's home, 717 East Fourth street. —Albany Democrat

Cough Medicine for Children.

Too much care cannot be used in selecting a cough medicine for children. It should be pleasant to take, contain no harmful substance and be most effectual. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy meets these requirements and is a favorite with the mothers of young children everywhere. For sale by all Dealers.—Advertisement.

DYNAMITE KILLS PIONEER

William Ladding'on, Aged 88 Meets Horrible Death. Came to Oregon in 1852

William Laddington, aged 88 years, for half a century a miner and prospector on Javans creek, met a horrible death in his cabin home Tuesday night. About nine o'clock neighbors heard an explosion, and saw the glare of flames. This morning they found his charred and mangled remains lying in the ashes.

Death was probably caused, in the opinion of Coroner A. E. Kellogg, of Gold Hill who went to investigate, by the explosion of four or five sticks of dynamite the aged miner kept in his cabin. This caused the fire. His arms and legs were torn from his body by the force of the explosion. He was burned to a charred mass. The cabin was reduced to splinters.

Laddington came to Oregon in 1852, and was a central figure in the mining activities of those days. He won a fortune from the earth, but of recent years he has received a monthly allowance from the county. He was born in Kentucky. All of his life was spent in the open hills, and his last days were those of a hermit.

The funeral services will be held at Gold Hill. No relatives are known. —Tribune

CONSERVATION OF WATER

One-Fifth Should be in Forests Says National Conservation Congress.

Washington, Nov. 17.—To properly regulate stream-flow and to protect the soil from washing, not less than from one-fifth to one-third of the total area of the country should be in forest. This is the recommendation made today by the forestry committee at the fifth national conservation congress.

Forests must be protected, the committee adds, not so much in localities which already suffer from lack of moisture as in regions which lie in the path of prevailing winds and are still abundantly supplied both with ground water and precipitation. In the Atlantic plain therefore, and in the southern Appalachians, the gateways for the prevailing winds from the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic ocean, forests must be especially conserved if the humidity of the great central basin of the country, the granary of the continent, is to be maintained.

Where the clearing of the forest in the Atlantic and Gulf coast states is a necessity, it should be done only under the condition that the cleared land is to be devoted to intense cultivation, as, after forests, crops contribute most to the moisture of the air. Forests themselves, according to the scientists, evaporate into the air several times more moisture than is given off by water surfaces of equal area and these southeastern forests act as a moisture reservoir for the water which falls upon them and is in turn taken up and passed on again.

By safeguarding the humidity in the regions which lie in the path of the prevailing winds the farm lands further inland ought to get more rain. Cleared land which becomes waste, or poor pasture, or grows up to weak vegetation means so much evaporation lost to the passing air currents.

In dry regions rows of trees or wind-breaks surrounding fields and orchards by preventing the drifting of the snow and increasing the activity of the wind will be more likely to act as conservers of moisture in the soil than solid bodies of timber.

POULTRY

New Championship Hen Lays 303 Eggs in Year.

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Ore., Nov.—By the production of 303 eggs in one year Station hen C.521 at the Oregon Agricultural College has distanced the late champion No. C.543 by the liberal margin of 12 eggs. This is the first time that official records have shown that there is such a thing in the world as the 300-egg hen. Her record is 21 more eggs than the former world's record and 22 more than the United States record.

The new world's champion, like the former champion, was reared at the Experiment Station and comes from a line of heavy producers. And like the

former champion she is the result of crossing different breeds in an effort to develop a new breed of heavy producers that will breed true.

This line of breeding has been followed up patiently and persistently for the last six years, with a distinct advance each year. Within the next two years the Oregon Station expects to present a new breed having as its first and essential characteristic high egg qualities.

The most important thing is that there are other exceptional layers in this new strain. The two world beaters are not freaks. Their pedigrees account for their performances, and the best five hens in the flock average over 280 eggs each, equaling the former world's record. The new champion and four of her full sisters in the same yard averaged 245 eggs, and the entire flock of forty averaged 210 eggs per year.

The size of the egg is also given consideration in the work of breeding. The new champion is from a hen that laid about the largest and finest eggs of any hen at the Station. She has inherited this trait, and her eggs are of large size, and good shape and color. The 303 eggs weighed about 42 pounds. The weight of the hen is 5 pounds.

"I believe the result of our breeding experiments will be of the greatest interest and encouragement to poultry breeders throughout the world," said Professor Dryden. "They will show very clearly that by proper breeding the egg yield of the country may be greatly increased."

Electric Sparks

If New York mothers are not allowed to teach, a lot of New York fathers may have to go to work.

The Prince of Monaco is fortunate in having his government so regulated that he can absent himself without fear of a treasury deficit.

Mexico's members of Congress are justified in feeling that the idea of official investigation of prison conditions is being overworked.

Dark suspicions continue to arise that the cooking in the household of the late Admiral Eaton was far from being conducted on the lines of the Pure Food Law.

Russia having demonstrated that it cannot comfortably govern the territory under its control, has proceeded to discover more land.

Still railroad trainmen may keep photos in the watch case in order not to get their dates mixed.

With visiting militants, the New Haven controversy, and the Eaton case, what chance has our old friend Harry?

The best offhand explanation of the rise in beef to \$9.75 a hundred is that the trust is after that surplus of 66 cents per capita.

Young Vincent Astor's position at the head of the New York fashionist finance committee offers almost as good a chance dying poor as could be found in the free library field.

Germany's silence on the naval holiday plan may be regarded by England as sufficiently ominous to warrant a ratio of construction of three to one in the future.

It is just possible that Mr. Langford-Davies, who claims that modern war accomplished nothing, might have a change of heart if he were to take a little trip to the Balkans.

Madison square Garden made Mrs. Pankeurst look like a needle in the haystack.

Sulzer says he is just beginning to fight. What's his hurry?

It costs \$43 a ton more to get grapes than it used to, so of course you will have to use fewer tons.

The Department of Agriculture wants us to understand that a crow is not as black as it looks.

"ON TO WASHINGTON!" shout the women. Well, after these many investigations, nearly everybody is.

Those politicians in Albany did not wait for someone without sin to cast the first stone at Sulzer.

John Bull stands in the terrible predicament of having to be considered a woman beater or a henpecked individual.

Wonder what obscure colonel in the United States Army is now headed toward the White House, via the City of Mexico.

Americans are planning to build a hotel in Tokyo which will be a reproduction or one of the New York hostels. If they reproduce the New York prices the long talked of war with Japan will probably materialize promptly.

It is said that every time a woman carrying a handbag crosses London Bridge there is a panic in the House of Commons.

Yes it is a triumph for justice for Governor Sulzer to be thrown out of office and Boss Murphy put there in his place.

PORTLAND LETTER

Apple Day Observed Tuesday. Oregon Hen Breaks Record. Eight Six Month-old Pigs Sell for \$123.00

Portland, Ore. Nov. 18, 1913 (Special)—A short time ago the Oregon Agricultural College announced the fact that a cross-bred hen had turned out 291 eggs in her first twelve months of usefulness, and stated that no other egg machine had ever before reached that rate of speed. Now, the college announces, the original best hen-in-the-world will have to take a back seat, as another bird at the same institution has succeeded in laying 303 eggs in exactly one year. This new hen, like the former record-breaker, is a cross between the Barred Rocks and White Leghorns.

Professor Dryden, in charge of the poultry department at the college, says that no special attempt, outside of the breeding, was made to secure high records. The methods followed in feeding and general care were such as might be profitable followed by any farmer or owner of poultry. The 303 eggs produced by the record-breaking hen weighed 42 pounds, or about eight times the weight of the hen herself, and were remarkable uniform in size, shape and color. Many requests have been received at the college to place the hen on exhibition, but on account of her great value as a breeder it has been decided that the risks are greater than the value of the advertising.

Wholesale observance of apple day, November 18, has given to the Oregon apple one of the greatest bits of advertising it has ever received. Apples and apple dishes were served in hotels and restaurants all over the United States. Scores of menus and promises of co-operation have been received at the Portland Commercial Club, even far away Alaska having fallen in line, and newspapers all over the country have boosted the matter along.

Eight pigs, six months, 1632 pounds, \$123.00. This is a condensed story of what has been accomplished by a farmer at Independence, Oregon, who recently hauled his pork to market and disposed of it. Each hog was 6 months old and averaged 204 pounds, making an average value of \$15.38 a head, or \$2.56 per month per hog. "Never let your pigs make hogs of themselves," is the advice of a prominent farm expert in urging farmers to hurry the growth of their pigs and getting them to market when from 6 to 9 months old.

Of great interest to every section of the great Columbia basin is the announcement, made by James J. Hill himself within the past week, that a new line of steamers will be put in operation between the mouth of the river and California points within the next fifteen months. Two fine combination freight and passenger steamers are now being built at Philadelphia, and it is said they will be the fastest vessels ever sailed under the American flag. Each will have capacity for 800 passengers and 1,500 tons of freight, and they are expected to beat the present best railroad time between Portland and San Francisco by about four hours.

Quarry Cabin is Burglarized

The word reached Ashland Saturday that the cabin at the Pennist in Granite Company's quarry near Ayers Spur was burglarized while the crew were down at Ashland last Sunday. When the crew returned from spending their Sunday in town they found all the grub missing and also a lot of dynamite and fuse. Whether the robbery was perpetrated by some fellows who wanted a grub stake and dynamite for prospecting or whether hoboes or criminals took it to use in another burglary was a question which is hard to solve. —Tidings

Anthracite at Roseburg

Fillings made in the United States land office in Roseburg this afternoon on about 5000 acres of coal lands in this county marks the opening of what promises to be by far the largest enterprise ever launched in Douglas county. This land is located about 15 or 20 miles east of Glide and comprises a vein of anthracite coal said to be fully 12 feet thick. —Roseburg Review

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