

The Cottage Grove Sentinel

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PALMER IS CONVICTED OF MANSLAUGHTER; TRIAL IS BRIEF

Killing Took Place Here on January 10, When Ralph Lammers Received Fatal Injuries.

JURY IS OUT ONLY FIVE HOURS

Witnesses Testify That Palmer Admitted That He Intended to Slash Assaultant.

In what was probably the most remarkable murder trial ever held in Lane county and one of the briefest ever held in the state, James Palmer, 17-year-old Cottage Grove lad, was convicted on a charge of manslaughter for the stabbing to death of Ralph Lammers, aged 20, in an altercation here on the evening of January 10. The impelling of the jury was completed shortly after the opening of court upon Wednesday of last week. All the evidence had been submitted and the arguments completed at 4:35 of the same day and five hours later the verdict had been arrived at. The indictment had been for murder in the second degree.

The expedition with which the trial was handled was surprising and as it had been anticipated that there would be a decided difference of opinion among jurors as to the degree of crime, with a possibility of the favoring of acquittal by some of them, the arrival at a verdict within such a brief time also came as a surprise.

State's Testimony Introduced.

The state introduced as its first witness at the opening of the trial George Lammers, father of the youth killed by the accused. He testified as to the age and size of his boy, stating that he was 20, weighed 160 pounds and was 5 feet 9 inches in height, while the other boy, testimony brought out, weighed 175 pounds and is 6 feet 2 inches tall.

Lester Harrington, who accompanied Lammers in the automobile to the place where they caught up with Palmer on the street and where the fight occurred, and John Kitzmiller, who witnessed the encounter, testified as to the scuffle. Kitzmiller was across the street. Harrington stayed in the automobile and said he was not close to the combatants. He said that Palmer ran away after the fight, anyway he was not in sight when Lammers staggered over to where Harrington was standing. Harrington denied that Lammers, while in the pool hall, invited Palmer to come out and fight.

C. E. Frost, physician, who gave the injured man first aid, told of the nature of the wounds. Coroner Branstetter testified as to the knife used by Palmer.

Conversation Is Heard.

John Springs said that he heard Lammers exclaim, "You damned son of a bitch, you've carved me with a knife," and said that Palmer replied, "Yes, that's what I intended to do." He said he was walking across the street nearby at the time. He said he did not witness the struggle.

William H. Dale, physician, of Eugene, who attended Lammers at Mercy hospital where he died later, stated that there were five knife wounds. One was across the head, one across the hip, one across the chest, one into the heart and another directly into the chest and heart. One of the ribs was cut in two, he testified.

Frank Erb, who was nearby, said that Palmer replied to Lammers' exclamation that he had knifed him. "You're damned right. I intended to."

Boy Hears Combatants.

Kenneth Williams, a ten-year-old boy, who was also on the other side of the street from the combatants, said that he heard someone say, "You stabbed him with a damned old pocket knife," and then someone said, "You're damned right I did."

J. F. McFarland, who arrested Palmer half an hour after the encounter, stated that the boy was not at home when he arrived but that he arrived later. He said that Harrington identified him as the man with whom Lammers was fighting. McFarland said that he took Palmer's knife from him and that the little blade was blood stained. He said that Palmer denied having the scuffle.

Defendant Testifies.

Palmer on the stand in his own defense in response to questioning of his attorney detailed the events leading up to the fatal stabbing. Palmer declared that he did not know Lammers intimately and that his first meeting with him was a few days previous to the tragedy when Lammers accosted him on the street and greeted him with "Hello, Geof." Palmer stated that he protested against this but that there had been no open quarrel.

The next meeting of the boys was at the Buckhorn pool room the night of January 10. Palmer declared that he entered the pool room, purchased some candy and then was accosted again by Lammers, who in a challenging tone asked him to come into the alley to fight. Palmer stated on the

MURDERER CROSSED IOWA RIVER IN MIDDLE OF WINTER

Bend, Ore., March 12.—In his flight from the law, Eldon Hutchinson, slayer of his girl wife at Kelo, Wash., performed a feat believed to have never been equaled before when he crossed the McKenzie pass from Eugene in a single day in the dead of winter. He wore no snowshoes, but wrapped his feet in burlap sacks to aid him in crossing the ice, snow and rocks of the rough pass country.

Hutchinson reached Bend on February 15. He said he was from California and that he was in search of a brother whom he believed to be somewhere in central Oregon.

Hutchinson was dressed in ordinary working clothes when he applied at the Andrus ranch for work and said that he had recently come from Eugene. He said he had a brother living in central Oregon.

The stranger was employed at plowing and other spring farm work and proved to be a good worker. Andrus said, a short time after he went to work he began telling Andrus about something that was troubling him and hinting that he had committed some desperate act. He spent much of his spare time reading the bible and talked about religion to Andrus. At other times he mentioned outstanding crimes that had been committed in the northwest in recent months, particularly the Skikvov mail robbery murders and others in which the murderers had escaped. Andrus thought "Carlton" might be one of the D'Autremont boys, but found that he did not in any answer the description.

The man's remarks were so vague and contradictory that Andrus decided that he was merely worrying over some small trouble and told him so. At no time did Hutchinson tell him enough to warrant his reporting the case to the authorities.

Finally Hutchinson began saying that he would have to go to Pendleton on business. Andrus needed him badly on the ranch and tried to persuade him to stay until he could get another man, but Hutchinson left Monday.

JACK REED IS TO MEET RALPH HAND HERE TUESDAY

Ogden Athlete Comes With Extensive Repertoire and Promises to Show Real Goods.

Jack Reed, of Ogden, Utah, will be here March 25 to meet Ralph Hand, local middleweight wrestler. Reed, who is athletic instructor at Ogden, recently participated at Oakland, Calif., in two matches with Al Karasick, of that city, who advances some claims to being the Pacific coast middleweight champion. The newspapers of that city spoke of the two matches as being among the fastest ever put on there.

The first match went on for 25 minutes and it was said that Reed exhibited his wares in a way to surprise many who had long been following the mat game. He outclassed his opponent in scientific skill and with his repertoire of fancy holds but his opponent had greater endurance and when he clamped on a headlock his biceps held like a steel vice. It took five of these, however, to put the Ogden man to the mat groggy. Reed thought he got a raw deal in the first match and that he really pinned his opponent to the mat three times.

Local wrestling fans have long wished for a match between Reed and Hand and Jack promises that it will be about the best thing the wrestling fans have paid admission to see. The two men will be evenly matched, Reed expecting to weigh in at 165 and Hand at 163.

Hand takes on Gus Schneidau at Gold Hill tomorrow night. This will be their second meet. Hand won the former one, a handicap.

FOREST OFFICIALS ARE TO VISIT CLUB HERE TONIGHT

C. B. Neal, of the Roseburg office of the forest service, and E. S. Holderman, ranger at Ruja, will attend the meeting of the Cottage Grove commercial club tonight in their official capacities to talk over matters of mutual interest between the city and the forest service.

A sale of a large block of timber in the Umpqua reserve will be made in May by the forest service. The city's intake will have to be removed to accommodate the logging operations but satisfactory arrangements have already been made with the forest service for a new watershed on Dinner creek and for construction of the necessary water line.

ONE THIEF GETS \$70; HOP FIEND SURPRISED AT WORK

The home of Mrs. Lulu White on south Sixth street was entered by a burglar Friday afternoon while no one was at home. The loss of \$70 in currency and a watch was reported to Marshal Pitcher. It was thought that the thief was some local person.

The office of B. R. Job was entered Sunday afternoon by a man who was captured by Marshal Pitcher and gave his name as George Hayden. Mr. Job surprised the man ransacking the office but he got away, being captured a few minutes later by the officer. It was thought that he was a hop fiend looking for dope which he hoped to find in a physician's office. Nothing was missing.

Eugene Art Shop Opens Branch.

Mrs. Caroline Brodie, of Eugene, has opened a branch of the Eugene Art shop at 300 Main street.

Rubber stamps. The Sentinel.

MATTOX, MOONSHINER, MAKES SENSATIONAL ESCAPE

Other Prisoners Carry Him Out of Jail in Ash Can; Uses Legs to Advantage.

Cottage Grove has probably lost one moonshiner for good through the somewhat sensational escape of William Mattox from the county jail. The following account of the escape appeared in Sunday's Eugene Register:

A new and clever method of escaping from jail was successfully tried Friday evening at 5:30 o'clock by William Mattox, Cottage Grove moonshiner, who was to have been taken to the state prison Saturday to serve a year. He secreted himself in the large ash can that is kept in the jail and two other prisoners carried him in the can to the rear of the jail lot. When the prisoners and Deputy Sheriff Van Svarverud, who was guarding them, returned to the jail, Mattox crawled out and ran down the street. He has not been seen since.

Mattox's escape was not discovered until Saturday morning when Constable John L. Marsh went to the jail to get his prisoner and take him to Salem, and the manner in which he escaped was not definitely learned until Saturday afternoon.

When it was ascertained that Mattox was not in jail, Sheriff Stickels and his deputies searched high and low for a place where he might have dug his way out and have covered up the hole, but nothing was found. The officers then came to the conclusion that Mattox, when some of the prisoners were carrying in wood for the night and when the ash can was being carried out, had slipped out of the door and quietly secreted himself in the living apartments on the second floor, although Deputies Rodney Roach and Earl Humphrey were standing directly in front of the entrance and declared that they saw no such movement.

Deputy Van Svarverud, who accompanied two prisoners, Harold Smith and Phil Worden, with the ash can to the rear of the lot, said that they merely set the can down on the ground. Sheriff Stickels said that the prisoners usually empty the can, but Deputy Svarverud said he did not know that this was the custom or he would have directed Smith and Worden to overturn the can and the escape would have been prevented.

Blacksmiths in the shop across Park street from the rear of the jail lot told the sheriff Saturday afternoon that as soon as the deputy sheriff and the two prisoners had returned to the jail Mattox crawled out of the can and ran as fast as he could west on Park street. When asked why they did not tell of the occurrence sooner they told the sheriff, according to that official, that they presumed that Mattox was a prisoner whom he wanted to get rid of and that he had taken that means of letting him go.

Mattox is not a small man and the sheriff and his deputies marveled at the fact that he was able to double himself up in such a small space. He is from Cottage Grove, where he was arrested with a moonshine still in his possession. He was sentenced to serve a year on a charge of possessing a still. His wife was conversing with him through the jail window only a few minutes before his escape and it is believed that she knew of his plans and was waiting in a car in which he probably made his escape out of the state.

Smith, who is serving a four months' term on a charge of larceny of an automobile, and Worden, who is serving a term for the sale of liquor, will be deprived of their corridor liberty for some time as punishment for the part they took in the escape, said the sheriff.

APPEAL IS MADE FOR WELFARE OF YOUTH OF COUNTRY

Inspirational Talks Made at Meeting Held for Promotion of County Y. M. C. A.

A meeting of business men for the purpose of promoting the County Y. M. C. A. movement was held Tuesday evening in the rest room, the business session being preceded by a 50-cent dinner served by the members of the Mothers' club. Several inspirational addresses were made. No definite action was taken but a committee will be appointed to attend a county mass meeting to be held Wednesday night of next week in Eugene.

Mr. Socolepsky, Y. M. C. A. secretary for Marion county, told of the work there and how young men are being kept out of places which fail to inspire and in which they absorb the things which lower their morals. He also said a large number of girls are being saved by the appeal of Y. M. C. A. work, fully a third of those taking a stand for christianity being of the gentler sex.

Mr. Brady, editor of the Oregon Statesman, said that every boy has a right to be born free from the ravages of sin, that he has a right to the firm guidance of parents and a right to surroundings which will permit his growing into healthy and moral manhood.

Eugene Art Shop Opens Branch.

Mrs. Caroline Brodie, of Eugene, has opened a branch of the Eugene Art shop at 300 Main street.

Rubber stamps. The Sentinel.

TREE FALLS ONTO POWER LINE

Service Is Interfered With Briefly and Two Men Narrowly Escape Injury.

Thornton Corners, March 18.—(Special).—Electric power service in Cottage Grove, Springfield and Roseburg was interfered with for a few minutes Saturday afternoon when a tree fell across the power line where it crosses the Premazzi place and Louis Promazzi and Mr. Davis, who were cutting piling, narrowly escaped injury. Fortunately for the men the tree fell into the opportunity to escape. A portion of the falling tree was broken off when it struck the other tree. The lower portion fell against the power lines but slid off within a few minutes. Had the whole tree fallen with force onto the power wires they probably would have been wrecked. As it was the cities receiving juice over the lines were inconvenienced but a short time.

NO NEEDLES IN KANSAS CITY AS GOOD AS THOSE PURCHASED AT CALAPOOYA

London, Ore., March 18.—(Special to The Sentinel).—The Cottage Grove country has become famous for many things, but a new one was sprung this week when C. H. Wood, merchant at London, received an order from Kansas City, Mo., for a package of needles. The woman who sent the order clamped at Calapooya springs last year and said she had been unable to purchase in Kansas City any needles as good as those she had purchased at the London store.

Engraved work. The Sentinel.

Mary Wants to Know

Mary is a wife who endeavors to keep posted on things political but who is not above discussing them with her husband and being guided by his advice. The following conversation which took place one evening a few evenings ago was their first on the Lane county recall movement.

"John, have you been keeping posted on this recall business?" asked the wife.

"I'll say I have," replied the husband.

"Is it true that both Roney and Sharp were elected upon platforms which promised reduction in taxes and greater efficiency in the conduct of the county's business?"

"Yes, of course, all candidates for office promise that. Roney and Sharp were just like all others. If they expected to get elected they had to promise to do things that they didn't expect to do."

"Don't you think that they ought to have tried to do the things they promised to do?"

"They have tried but other folks wouldn't let them."

"What other folks?"

"I don't know just who but everybody wants to get money from the county and they just couldn't help spending it."

"That may be true in a great many cases, but there are a few things that puzzle me. For example, why did the commissioners abrogate that portion of the contract with the Warren Construction company which provided that they should pay a penalty of \$25 a day for failing to complete the Cottage Grove highway at the time named in the contract?"

"I have never asked but I presume they thought the contractors would lose money if that provision were enforced."

"Do you presume the contractors would have done anything for the county had it been found that the job could be done much cheaper than the price agreed upon in the contract?"

"Certainly not, that wouldn't be business. Business isn't done that way."

"If it isn't business for the contractors to make it right with the county when they happen to get a juicy contract, why is it business for the county to be so solicitous about the profits of the contractors?"

"Oh, Lane county can afford to be generous once in awhile, can't it?"

"Possibly you think so now but during the campaigns when Roney and Sharp were elected you were kicking about high taxes and extravagance in a manner to indicate that you meant it and voted for them on the grounds that they would save your tax money. Now you are making excuses for them because they have spent it needlessly. The Warren Construction company spends more money annually than Lane county doesn't it?"

"I presume so, but what has that got to do with the case?"

"If they are a great big, wealthy corporation, why was it necessary to be so generous as to give them \$7500 by relieving them of the penalty they would have paid on the Cottage Grove highway except for the generosity of the county commissioners? What will this piece of highway cost?"

"I understand that the cost when completed will be over \$17,000 the mile."

"That is the most expensive piece of highway ever built by the county, is it not? It seems to me that the contractors were faring pretty well. It seems to me that the commissioners were hired to reduce taxes and to work for the county."

MRS. LOUISA M. THOMPSON WAS PIONEER OF 1872

Was Born on Plains While Parents Were Coming West; Husband Pioneer Photographer.

Mrs. Louisa M. Thompson, familiarly known as "Aunt Lou," a resident of Cottage Grove for 50 years, died March 15 in a Eugene hospital, where she had been taken for an operation only a few days before. She had been in frail health for a long time. The funeral was held here Tuesday afternoon from the Christian church, E. R. Clevenger, pastor of the Baptist church, officiating. Interment was in the A. F. & A. M. L. O. O. F. cemetery, where the Rebekah lodge had charge of the services.

Mrs. Thompson was born on the plains of Utah September 14, 1848, while her parents were emigrating to California from Missouri. She was married in California November 22, 1870, to Harry F. Thompson. They came to Cottage Grove in 1872 and Mr. Thompson, who died 29 years ago, was the town's pioneer photographer and one of its first stockmen. They resided 12 years at Latham before moving to what is now the west side of Cottage Grove. Mrs. Thompson had been a Rebekah for 54 years and was a charter member of the local lodge and was also one of the first members of the Christian church, of which she had been a member 30 years. She was aged 75 years, 6 months, 1 day. D. P. Burton, former county assessor of Lane county, was a brother. Surviving children are W. A. Thompson and Mrs. Hattie Best, Portland, and W. F. Thompson, Salem. There are four grandchildren.

DESERTED YEARS AGO BY FATHER, MAN SEEKS PART OF ESTATE OF BROTHER

Claiming to have been deserted by his father when but a small child and to have known nothing of the whereabouts of members of his family until recent years, Reuben Hood Eaylsham, of Lyle, Wash., now seeks to be declared an heir of his brother, Robert Eaylsham, lawyer Sinslaw resident, who met death in an accident near Swishong November 28 last. He has instituted suit in the probate court.

The only heirs named in the order appointing Mrs. Dora Fuson, of Cottage Grove, administratrix, were Norman Eaylsham, of Salem, a brother; Tena Amidon, of Spartan, Mich., a sister, and Dora Fuson, of Cottage Grove, a sister.

Reuben Eaylsham alleges that he was born at Holton, Mich., in 1872, that his mother died in 1875 and soon afterward his father left him with a friend, I. H. Barlow, at Holton, saying he would call for the child soon, but according to the complaint he never called and later the family moved to Deadwood, Lane county, Oregon, without informing Barlow. It was not until many years afterward, it is alleged, that the whereabouts of the older Eaylsham were known to the son. In the meantime Barlow and family came west and settled at Lyle, Wash., bringing Reuben Eaylsham with them.

The plaintiff states in his complaint that he was never legally adopted by Barlow and that he is one of the rightful heirs to his brother's estate which amounts to several thousand dollars.

LOLANE ROAD IS SUBJECT OF MORE CONTROVERSY

Commercial Club Committee Reports Highway to Be in Excellent Condition for Travel.

The Lorane-Cottage Grove highway, which was closed during the winter months by order of the county court to prevent its being cut up by truck traffic, was found to be in excellent condition by a committee from the commercial club which made an inspection of the road Monday at the request of the county commissioners. The members of the committee were C. E. Stewart, J. H. Chambers and C. A. Bartlett.

They reported that they were able to travel on high the whole length of the new road, which was opened Saturday for light traffic. A part of this road is yet to receive a finishing course of rock. Four soft spots were reported as in need of immediate repair.

The county commissioners had asked the commercial club to make a recommendation as to how the road should be completed. After a spirited discussion the club refused to go on record on this point, but did recommend that the road be completed at once and kept open.

This road has caused considerable contention because of the fact that many Lorane and Cottage Grove people allege that they have not gotten the kind of a road which was specified in the measure in which the bond money was provided and that the court did not keep its promise made to a committee of 30 from here and Lorane that they would build the kind of a road the Cottage Grove and Lorane people asked for, which was a waterbound macadam. It is admitted by the county commissioners that no roller has been used on the road, but the commissioners claim that three residents of Cottage Grove and Lorane instructed their engineer to disregard the promise to use the roller. The three referred to have denied that they gave any instructions and that anything they could have said could not have relieved the court of a promise made 30, that the conversation referred to did not take place until after the road was put in its present condition, with the greater part of it completed, and that they agreed with the engineer that rolling after all the rock had been laid would be a waste of money.

Farmer's Union Endorses.

The county farmers' union, at a meeting held Saturday in Eugene, endorsed W. W. Branstetter for coronor, J. D. Mickle, incumbent, for state dairy and food commissioner, and Seymour Jones, of Salem, for public service commissioner. A number of county candidates were endorsed several weeks ago.

COTTAGE GROVE LIONS CLUB IS PRESENTED WITH CHARTER

Dyott Is President of New Organization, Woodward Vice President, Ward Secretary.

The newly organized Cottage Grove Lions club was presented with its charter at a meeting held last night at Hotel Osburn, Eugene. Melvin Jones, international secretary, who is on a tour of the coast, made the presentation. A charter was presented to the Eugene club at the same time.

The Cottage Grove club has 25 members and the officers are as follows: Gaven C. Dyott, president; W. A. Woodward, vice president; Worth Harvey, treasurer; A. N. Ward, secretary; N. J. Nelson, J. N. tail (twister); Cecil E. Caldwell, lion tamer, and S. L. Maskin, Harry W. Titus and T. G. Sudell, directors. The selection of officers was made at a noon luncheon held Thursday at Hotel Bartell.

Slight Frosts Do No Injury.

There were slight frosts Sunday and Monday nights. As buds had been somewhat backward, it is thought there was no injury worth mentioning.

WALTER A. WOODARD PLANS TO ERECT SECOND MILL

It Would Be Located on Flume Line of Present Mill and Have Capacity of 20,000 to 40,000.

Whether or not the Cottage Grove country gets another good-sized saw-mill in the immediate future depends to a large extent upon the lumber market, which is considerably off at present, the price being something like 25 per cent less than a year ago, while the cost of production, as compared with the same period, especially as regards labor, is slightly greater.

Walter A. Woodard has plans practically completed for a second mill to be put into timber on the Coast fork four miles from the city. It would be located on the flume which brings the lumber from the present W. A. Woodard mill, located eight miles out, to the planer at Latham. Mr. Woodard had made plans to go ahead at once with the construction work but on account of the uncertain condition of the market he is not certain but that he may wait until the price takes an upward trend. The present mill, which is one of the most modern of its size in the state, is cutting between 60,000 and 65,000, which may be enough for present conditions. The new mill would have a capacity between 20,000 and 40,000.

Work of electrifying the planer mill at Latham, which has been going on for a number of months, is nearing completion and this will be one of the most modern plants of its kind and will be the only electrified mill operating in this section.

Ed Powell is putting in a small mill on the Gilham place on Coast fork and W. H. Daugherty is putting in a mill of 15,000 capacity on the Thackrah place, also on Coast fork. Mr. Daugherty has been interested in a number of mills in this section during the past few years.

JOHNSTON TO TALK ON RECALL HERE TOMORROW NIGHT

District Attorney Will Tell of the Plundering and Illegal Expenditure of Funds.

Clyde N. Johnston, district attorney, will address a public meeting in the armory here Friday night to tell the voters about the plundering of public funds by Commissioners Roney and Sharp. This is the home of Sharp and the recall battle has raged here with greater fury probably than anywhere else in the county. Exception has been taken here to promotion of the recall move by the spread of scandal concerning the private life of Sharp. Mr. Johnston, in previous addresses, has referred only to the public acts of the commissioners and his address here will be confined to illegal and extravagant expenditures of public funds and to inefficiency in office.

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THE DOCTOR WHO ANSWERS A HURRY CALL WITH THE GREATEST POSSIBLE SPEED IS MORE VALUABLE THAN A PHYSICIAN OF EQUAL SKILL WHO DRIVES UP TO THE PATIENT'S DOOR AT HIS OWN CONVENIENCE. SERVICE COUNTS. IT IS WORTH MONEY.

Who is there who doesn't agree with this general principle?

—and doesn't it apply also to the buying of merchandise?

—the progressive merchant in your own trading center gives service along with the goods. He has a selection of merchandise continually in stock. You don't have to wait. When you enter the store you are able to see the article itself in which you are interested. You see it with your eyes, and feel it with your fingers; note its actual size, shape and color; compare it with other goods at different prices, and, if it is what you want, take it away with you.

—if you have questions to ask you are given an explanation on the spot. The answer given your first question may suggest another query. It is answered within half a minute of the first interrogation. No time is lost. You benefit from the dealer's practical knowledge, from the fact that he is on the ground and ready at all times to see to it personally that the article he has sold you gives satisfaction.

—the wise buyer will not forget that such matters have a dollars and cents value and should enter into the reckoning whenever a price is being made.—From the Oregon Farmer.