

# OREGON CITY ENTERPRISE

FORTY-SECOND YEAR—NO. 52.

OREGON CITY, OREGON, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1908.

ESTABLISHED 1856.

## AFFIDAVIT IS SENSATIONAL

### GRAVE CHARGES MADE AGAINST MRS. EFFIE B. ROBINSON, OF FIRLAND STATION.

### SHE SEEKS NOTORIETY

#### Portland Attorney Says Case Is Due to Scramble For Gold Found on Body of Man Near Oswego.



FRANK NEWTON, who is spending the holiday vacation in Oregon City, was the only hardware business in Lincoln County. His home and store are in Toledo.

Probably the most sensational and startling affidavit ever filed in the probate court of Clackamas County has been presented by Frank C. Hesse, an attorney of Portland, and a member of the firm of Hesse & Beckett, in which charges are made that Hesse had been questioned by the coroner, whose body was found at Springbrook schoolhouse, near Oswego, on September 13 last. Hesse has a client, Bernhard Habet by name, who confesses to the belief that the dead man was his brother, but that for he has brought forward no evidence to prove this supposition.

One phase of the case that makes it unusually interesting is the fact that the dead man had \$500 in gold in his pockets. Coroner Holman took charge of the remains and turned over the money to the treasurer of Clackamas County. In less than a week after the unknown man was buried, Mrs. Effie B. Robinson, of Firland Station, Multnomah County, appeared and demanded that the remains be exhumed. This was done and she declared that the body was that of her father, F. A. Williamson, who had come from Texas, Texas, last summer, to see her, and that he had been killed by a fall from a tree, where he could live the life he loved, so they came to Oregon City together on August 7, and after having dinner at the Brunswick restaurant, she told him good by and Williamson crossed the suspension bridge and started out on a prospecting tour.

Six weeks later his body was found in the brush near Oswego. There were no indications of violence, it being evident that heart failure had been the cause of death. Mrs. Robinson learned of the discovery of the body through the newspapers. She positively identified the articles that were found in the clothing, and her picture was found in the dead man's watch. Mrs. Robinson then applied for letters of administration, which were granted, and no sooner was this done than Attorney Hesse filed a contest, and a hearing has been ordered for January 10, in order that the contestant may have an opportunity to procure additional evidence in support of his claims.

The affidavit of Hesse contains no less than 20 exhibits, being letters that he has written in an effort to let light shine on the real facts of the case. It has been conversed with Mrs. Lail, who lives next door to Mrs. Robinson, and this lady, who has been on rather intimate terms with Mrs. Robinson, believes that the father story is a myth. Hesse also saw H. E. Potter, who resides not far from Mrs. Robinson's home, and Potter laughed about the matter, reporting that Charles Ridgway, who used to live next door to the contestant, had made the statement that her claim was nothing but an attempt to get hold of the money; that she is a woman who likes to be mixed up in affairs of general notoriety; that some time in the summer she claimed that some unknown party had stolen several hundred dollars from her residence, and that one morning everything was brought back and was hanged to the back door.

In his effort to secure testimony to discredit Mrs. Robinson, Hesse engaged a private detective, who went to the house of Mrs. Robinson, with the pretension of buying her house. He told her that he used to live in Wisconsin, whereupon Mrs. Robinson or either of her two half-sisters, made the statement that they used to live in Appleton, Wisconsin, where their father was a director in a bank in 1893, and where he lost \$40,000 where he had it on deposit. She also told him that they had formerly lived in Veroqua, and Neillville, Wis., where she knew Fred Beesley, a wrestler. Hesse lost no time in writing to Beesley, signing the name of J. H. Murphy to the latter, which has been unanswered. Hesse also wrote to the chief of police at Taxarkana, but has received no answer, and he penned a letter to the chief at Appleton, Wis., and obtained the following reply:

Appleton, Wis., Oct. 7th, 1908.  
Hesse & Beckett,  
Portland, Oregon, Gentlemen:  
Yours of the 2d regarding one F. A. Williamson at hand. Beg leave to inform you that I am unable to find any one who has ever lived here by that name. I have made every possible inquiry and consulted all the city directories from 1860 to the present time. I also find that no such man was ever interested in any of the banks and that there has not been a bank failure in this town since 1860 and that was a state bank and paid 80c on settlement.

Yours truly,  
E. W. HAEFER,  
Chief of Police,  
Appleton, Wis.

You certainly must have the wrong location.

Hesse wrote to the chief of police at Veroqua, Wis., and was advised that Williamson left there about 20 years ago and has not been heard from by the authorities since. However, the city marshal of Neillville, Wis., sent the following interesting letter to Hesse & Beckett:

In reply to yours of November 11, I will say that I believe Mr. F. A. Wil-

## VERDICT ONLY \$4.60

### SMALL AMOUNT RECOVERED IN SUIT AGAINST WILLIAM WEISMANDEL.

The jury in the suit of Sturgis Bros. against William Weismandel Monday afternoon brought in a verdict of \$4.60 for the plaintiff, after being out about one hour. The case was on trial all day in the County Court before Judge Dimick and a jury composed of William Myers, Levi Stehman, J. E. Jack, Mack Howell, A. J. Knightly and Walter Hornback. Sturgis Bros. contracted to remove all the merchantable timber from Weismandel's place, and they took timber to the value of \$104.66, furnishing Weismandel lumber valued at \$226. Sturgis Bros. sued for the difference. Expert testimony was produced to prove that all of the merchantable timber had not been removed, one cruiser testifying that there was still 338,000 feet of standing timber, while another held there was not more than 15,000 feet. Geo. C. Brownell appeared as attorney for Weismandel and W. S. U'Ren appeared for Sturgis Bros.

## 600 VOLTS AND LIVES

### TERRIFIC ELECTRIC CURRENT PASSES THROUGH BODY OF WALTER D. SMITH.

Walter D. Smith, a lineman for the Pacific States Telephone company, had a narrow escape from being electrocuted Tuesday morning at the western approach of the suspension bridge. Smith climbed a pole on the west side of the bridge to make some repairs on the telephone line and in climbing came in contact with what appeared to be a piece of dead cable wire, wound around the pole. The cable was in contact with the electric light wire, carrying about 600 volts, which passed through his body. His left hand was badly burned and also his face.

In climbing the pole he had fastened himself to it with his safety belt, and on letting go from the wire, fell to the top guard rail of the bridge. Had it not been for the safety belt he would have been precipitated to the ground 100 feet below. He will recover.

### HOLIDAY FOR 36 HOURS. Employees of Paper Mill Get Money For Christmas Shopping.

The Willamette Pulp & Paper Mill Company announced that all of its employees would be paid Monday afternoon, December 21, instead of the 23d of the month as usual, and the bank was open Monday night so that the checks could be cashed. This was done in order that the men might be given an opportunity to get their Christmas shopping done. The mills of the company will be shut down for 36 hours, from 6 P. M. Thursday to 7 A. M. Saturday, of this week.

### Aker Gives Bail for Appearance.

Ben Aker was Saturday held to appear to the Circuit Court. His bail was fixed at \$2500 and the required sureties were forthcoming and Aker was released. He waived examination before Justice of the Peace Samson. Aker was arrested on a statutory charge, and was taken into custody at Coquille City by Constable F. A. Miles.

## GLADSTONE AMBITIOUS

### RESIDENTS OF GROWING SUBURB VERY ANXIOUS TO INCORPORATE.

### HOLD MEETING MONDAY

#### Propose to Provide Thriving Community With Lights, Water Supply and Sewer System.

Following along the beaten track made by many small towns in Clackamas County, the people of Gladstone, a growing suburb just north of Oregon City, are preparing to incorporate, and held a meeting in this city last Monday night that was attended by 20 of the leading men of Gladstone. Matters incident to incorporation were informally discussed, and a mass meeting of the Gladstone people will be held next Monday night in the basement of the Christian Church, when the whole proposition will be gone over in detail. Charles T. Toomey and W. F. Schooley have taken the initiative and there seems to be no organized opposition.

The purpose of the proposed movement is apparently to obtain lights and water and sewer systems for the community which has developed wonderfully during the last two years, and the population has practically doubled during that time. The promoters contend that the expense of conducting a municipal government, with the right kind of a charter, would be small.

### NO QUORUM IS PRESENT. Annual Meeting of Insurance Grangers Postponed Until January 18.

The annual district meeting of the Oregon, Washington and Idaho division of the Life Insurance Company of the Patrons of Husbandry, was held in the courthouse in this city last Saturday afternoon. About 45 members of the Grange were present, and as 65 members are necessary to constitute a quorum, the meeting was adjourned until January 18, at 1:30 o'clock P. M. George Laelle was chairman of the meeting, and R. S. Cox, of Gashy, was secretary. The committee on credentials was C. C. Borland, of Oswego; John Burkyne, of New Era, and Mrs. Thomas L. Turner, of Tualatin. The meeting was held for the purpose of electing one director to succeed Charles E. Spence, of Carus.

### Five Days For Breaking Windows.

Otto Fout, charged with breaking windows in a Catholic institution at Oswego, was sentenced to serve five days in the county jail by Justice of the Peace Keiso of Milwaukee. Fout entered a plea of guilty.

## STOCK SELLS FOR RAILWAY

### F. M. SWIFT HOLDS MEETINGS THIS WEEK AT MOLLALA AND MACKSBURG.

### MUCH INTEREST SHOWN

#### Portland Promoter Says He Has Ample Financial Backing, But Wants \$100,000 Subscribed By Local People.

### LEADING PIONEER DEAD

### J. B. DAVID CAME TO OREGON CITY AFTER CIVIL WAR—ACQUIRED WEALTH HERE.

The funeral of the late J. B. David was held Sunday afternoon in the Masonic Temple under the auspices of Multnomah Lodge No. 1, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, of which deceased was an honored member. Ernest P. Randa, worshipful master, conducted the ceremonies. The interment was in the Masonic plot at Mountain View cemetery, and the pall bearers were George A. Harding, William Beard, Francis Shannon, Henry Miley, Harold A. Randa and Lily Stipp. Beautiful flowers covered the bier.

Mr. David died in Portland last Thursday. He had made his home in the metropolis, where he had extensive business interests, for many years, and his family lived on his large farm near Newberg. He was well known in this city, especially to the early settlers. Mr. David was a veteran of the Civil War, serving four years in the United States army. During the war he was confined for a time in the famous prison at Andersonville. At the close of the strife he came West, locating in Oregon City, and in company with the late David P. Thompson, he took several important surveying contracts for the Union Pacific. He was married in 1879 to a daughter of the late Dr. Saffrans, who survives him, along with five grown children, two sons and three daughters; Roy, Melville, Hallie, Mabel and Ione.

### EMMA HANSON, OF WEST OREGON CITY. Emma Hanson, the 12-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Hanson, of West Oregon City, died Thursday morning at the family home of pneumonia fever. The funeral took place Sunday afternoon and the interment was in Mountain View cemetery.

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## "SISTERS" GET MONEY

### OAK GROVE WOMEN SOLICITING WITHOUT AUTHORITY OF CATHOLIC CHURCH.

### HAVE NO PERMISSION

#### Rev. A. Hillebrand Warns Public That Church Repudiates Connection With Representatives of Institution.

Complaint has been made by the authorities of the Catholic Church that so-called Catholic sisters, calling themselves Benedictine sisters at Center Station, are soliciting without being properly authorized by Archbishop Christie of this diocese, under whose spiritual authority they are supposed to be. These "sisters" are not members of the Benedictine order, as is generally supposed, as the real Benedictine sisters are teachers, with headquarters at Mount Angel. Rev. A. Hillebrand, pastor of St. John's Church of this city, made the following statement:

"Sisters who solicit funds for any purpose are always expected to have the written and signed permission of the Archbishop of the diocese and also the parish priest in the place where they are soliciting. This is done as a protection, so that the public may not be deceived. I have nothing to say about their institution at Center Station, but would like to warn the professional and business men and public generally that these women, who are not sisters of the Catholic Church, are begging and do not have the sanction of the church.

"Bills incurred by interested people in the name of the Benedictine sisters, many of which have been addressed to the Benedictine sisters of Oregon City, who are teachers of the McLaughlin Institute, will not be honored or paid by the Benedictine sisters of this city, or of Portland, Milwaukee Street, or of Mount Angel, which is the mother house of the real Benedictine sisters.

"As a rule the Benedictine sisters of Oregon do not go out begging as they are not sisters of charity, but are sisters of a teaching community. People approached by sisters of any community should always ask for their credentials without hesitation." The women who, in the garb of Catholic sisters, have been collecting money in Portland and Oregon City, are said to be connected with an institution for the cure of consumptives at Center Station.

### FATHER McDERMOTT, OF THE ARCHBISHOP'S RESIDENCE, WHEN COMMUNICATED WITH AT PORTLAND, SAID: "The head of this institution was once connected with the Benedictine order at Elizabeth, N. J., but left without the consent of her superior, and is acting without the authority of the church."

### REV. A. HILLEBRAND, WHO DECLARES THAT SISTERS OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH SHOULD HAVE WRITTEN PERMISSION TO SOLICIT FUNDS.

ing an electric railway system into about 30 miles in length, will pass the interior of Clackamas County. While Swift does not plan to finance the project himself, he is in touch with men who are ready and willing

### CELEBRATES 94TH BIRTHDAY.

Mrs. Susan Porter Crossed Plains to Oregon in 1850.

Mrs. Susan Porter, mother of Mrs. W. H. H. Samson, celebrated her 94th birthday Tuesday. Grandma Porter was born in Washington county, Kentucky, and came to Oregon by ox team, arriving in this city in 1850. Her husband, Arthur Turner, with whom she left her old home for Oregon, died on the journey, at Green River, Wyoming.

Reaching this city, the young widow remained a few months, and then went to Marion county, where she was married to Stephen Porter, in 1851. Mr. and Mrs. Porter remained in Marion county until the death of the former, in 1900, at Mount Angel, after which Mrs. Porter came to this city, where she has resided since.

Five children were born to her: Mrs. Mary Miller, deceased, of Wedderburn; and Mmes. Lucinda Haldis, Woodbury, Wash.; Louisa Armstrong, Macksburg; J. E. Palmer, Mount Angel; J. E. Samson of this city.

### Mrs. Raney Harville, of Canby.

Mrs. Raney Harville died last Tuesday night at the home of her son-in-law, A. Boe, at Canby, after a brief illness. She came to Canby four months ago from Tacoma, where she had relatives. The funeral was held at Canby Friday. Mrs. Harville was a woman of advanced years.

### College Students Are Home.

The following students have returned from the University of Oregon to spend their holidays in this city: Miss Nieta Harding, Miss Georgia Cross, Earl Latourette, George Sullivan, Lloyd Harding, Charles Slevers, Charles Robison, Raymond Caulfield, Lee J. Caulfield.

Miss Angle Williams, who is an instructor in the University of Oregon, arrived in Oregon City Saturday afternoon, and will spend the holidays with her mother, Mrs. J. R. Williams.

Miss Ethel Schuebel, a student of the Albany College, has returned to Oregon City to spend her two weeks' vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. Schuebel.

### Case of Malignant Diphtheria.

The 6-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Tauscher, of New Era, died Friday at the family home of diphtheria. The case was a particularly malignant one. The child had been attending school, but was taken out as soon as she became ill, but the case had proceeded five days before the parents determined the fatal nature of the disease. The funeral took place Saturday at New Era. Tauscher is foreman of the sawmill and furniture factory of the Doernbecker Manufacturing Company.

OUR COLLEGE BOYS AND GIRLS ARE HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS.



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