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WEEKLY AND SEMI-WEEKLY.

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CORVALLIS, OREGON, MARCH 21, 1903.

R. F. IRVINE
Editor and Proprietor.

These Departments Have Received Big Shipments

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Clothing Department
Hat Department
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Silk and Trimming
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A Lenten Breakfast may be just as enjoyable—surely just as wholesome—if you will but select from the great variety we offer: cereals, fruit, fish and eggs. Really wholesome changes from a steady meat diet, and money-savers as well.

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to as high a standard as our desire would promote us, but see that you make no mistake in the house that keeps the highest standard of Groceries that is the place to BUY

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HENRY AMBLER,

Real Estate, Loan, and Insurance,
Philomath, Oregon.

THE PENNELL RIDÉ.

MYSTERY OF AUTO'S PLUNGE WITH OCCUPANTS INTO THE QUARRY.

Was it to Avoid the Newly Discovered Evidence and the Ceaseless Questionings of Reporters and Detectives—
The Burdick Case.

Buffalo, March 17.—A rich man beaten to death at midnight in his own house; twelve days of mystery unfolding mystery with scores of police, detectives and newspaper men treading a labyrinth of divorce proceedings and strange goings on in the hunt of the murderer and finally the man suspected above all others—he who had the strongest motive to kill—riding with his wife over a cliff to instant death for the one and fatal injury for the other below! Not even the splendid horrors of Poe's imagination furnish such a picturesquely terrible story as these plain facts in the great Burdick murder case at Buffalo. That final scene in the gray twilight, with Arthur R. Pennell and his wife sweeping in the pouring rain over the edge of a rocky pit—while a newspaper man waited for him to come back to his house and face newly discovered evidence—the plunge of the swift automobile, the scream of Mrs. Pennell and the horrified roadside boy clambering down among the rocks to find a dead man and a dying woman—it sounds like a page from Victor Hugo.

Now there are three deaths to explain. Mrs. Burdick is still living behind closed blinds with her mother and children in the house in which her husband was slain before he could press to a climax the divorce suit based on her relations to Mr. Pennell. Mrs. Pennell, who told the police that her husband was at home on the night of the murder is dead and no word of explanation has come from her lips. Pretty, witty, clinging Mrs. Payne, the dentist's wife, who has been so closely watched and so sharply questioned by the police, still dwells under semi-surveillance in her house, a four-minute walk from the scene of the murder.

That wild plunge to death in the stone quarry has riven the veil a little. Now we hear that Mr. Pennell was in an agony of anxiety, that he sat in his law office day after day in an almost hysterical condition, fearing to remain at home lest it might be thought he had broken down under the strain. Innocent or guilty, he found it hard to keep up an appearance of confidence, for wherever the changing trail of investigation led, whatever might be the changing clues that set the clamor of the newsboys in the streets against some new suspect, the unchangeable fact remained that Mr. Pennell was the only man known who had a direct and sufficient motive for desiring Mr. Burdick's death, and that fear of him had persuaded Mr. Burdick to carry a revolver. And Mr. Pennell, being a shrewd lawyer, knew that the police must come to his door again, in spite of the alibi witnessed by himself and his wife.

The news from Buffalo is that the police have doubts as to whether or not Mr. Pennell deliberately committed suicide. It might have been an accident. They are still looking for Mr. Burdick's slayer among the living.

The situation at the time of Mr. Pennell's death was intensely dramatic and suggestive. He had been the shadow on Mr. Burdick's home. Three times Mr. Burdick had forgiven his wife on her promise to keep away from Mr. Pennell. Then came the last phase of recreation and Mr. Burdick hired private detectives, secured evidence, and sued his wife for divorce, naming the young lawyer as co-respondent. Mrs. Burdick left her husband, her children, and her mother and went to live at Atlantic City. Thither Mr. Pennell went also. The two were seen together. These facts were known to the injured husband. He pressed his suit for divorce and amended the complaint. Mrs. Burdick's answer to her husband's suit was a counter-suit for divorce, with Mrs. Warren, divorced woman, of Cleveland Ohio, and

Jane Doe, of Buffalo, named as co-respondents.

Mr. Pennell came back to Buffalo and made an effort to stop the divorce proceedings. He saw Mr. Burdick and he begged him to forgive his wife once more. Mr. Burdick refused—the suit must go on. It is said Mr. Pennell threatened to kill himself and Mrs. Burdick. Even then Mr. Burdick did not relent.

Imagine that scene! Picture the tempest pleading for the tempted, and the wronged husband, sitting beside his own lawyer, turning a pitiless countenance upon his former friend! His wife, his children, his home,—all involved in that last stern answer, his home.

Then Mr. Pennell, the smooth, sly lawyer, went forth to think of some other plan to avert the disclosures of the divorce suit. How could he strike down the unrelenting husband from his position of advantage, how stay the coming punishment?

When Mr. Burdick was found in his loungethe with his skull battered to pieces all eyes turned toward Mr. Pennell. Mrs. Pennell promptly confirmed her husband's declaration that he was at home on the night of the tragedy. Then rumor went whooping after others.

But the trail led back to Mr. Pennell. A few hours before he was dashed to death in the quarry new evidence had been discovered. It was known on the day before the murder he had met Mrs. Burdick in New York. That was a discovery. The secret conference of the two persons who, of all the world, had the most obvious motives of wishing Mr. Burdick dead gave a new turn to the investigation.

So at the hour appointed, the correspondent waited in Mr. Pennell's house. And while he waited Mr. Pennell and his wife were tearing through the storm along the street in their automobile toward the outskirts of Buffalo, toward the cliff over which they went headlong to the rocks below. Innocent or guilty, the last swift dash over the roads must have been a thrilling experience. So many things, so many things to think of. So many voices clamoring, so many fingers pointing.

So many policemen, so many newspaper men, so many questions and so many millions waiting to hear the answers and pick them to pieces. He had written a letter to a friend in Pottsville, Pa., saying that Mr. Burdick had been killed by an unknown woman, and the letter had got into the newspapers. Ah! how they and plied him with questions about that!

How did he know that a woman had killed Mr. Burdick? So many questions, so many questions. And now he must explain his meeting with Mrs. Burdick in New York on the day before the murder. He must explain the new evidence. Police detectives and newspaper detectives—how keen and persistent they were! In a few minutes he must begin an other explanation on which his liberty, perhaps his life, might depend.

Two boys in the roadway heard the automobile bell ring. They saw Mr. Pennell's hat fly off, his arm go up; and then the swift machine turn sharply out of the highway, bumped over the sidewalk and then leap thirty feet to the rocks, crushing the lawyers head almost flat, and killing him almost instantly.

When news came of that leap to death in the stone quarry it was supposed that the end of the Burdick murder case had been reached. But no; the police are still searching for the murderer. Even if Mr. Pennell did commit suicide that does not explain all.

How did Mr. Burdick happen to be dressed only in his undershirt when his skull was beaten in?

For whom did he prepare the partly eaten supper found in his den?

Why did he not seize the loaded revolver found in his clothes, only a few feet from where he was killed? He was not drunk—the medical examination shows that. He was not drugged—science has also demonstrated that. He admitted his slayer to the house, or some one else in the dwelling did it. There was no struggle. That is shown by the condition of the room. He saw the first blow struck, for his bruised fingers indicate that he tried to parry it.

The Burdick murder mystery has not yet been solved.

LIEU LAND PIRATES.

GOV. CHAMBERLAIN MAKES ANOTHER MOVE IN DEFENSE OF STATE LANDS.

Won't Make More Selections Now—Referendum and Fair Appropriation—Petitions Sent Out—Editors Sue Each Other—Oregon News.

Salem, March 16.—The lieu land business has come to an abrupt end. Governor Chamberlain has refused to make any more selections of lieu lands on mineral base, even for the purpose of setting up selections heretofore made, but which have fallen down. In answer to every application that has been made the governor has declared that he will not make any more selections until it has been finally determined what amount of those already made will fall. If the quantity is large he will continue his refusal to proceed. If the amount is small, he may permit selections in all cases where the purchasers furnish the base and pay the state the difference between the present value of the base and the amount they have already paid for lieu land. His determination is that the credit of the state shall no longer be hawked about by lieu land operators for their own gain. As a consequence of Governor Chamberlain's taking this firm position, the lieu land operators and purchasers are in sore straits and are fearful of the outcome.

Governor Chamberlain's veto of the bill in which a clause had been inserted in the interest of the lieu land ring, together with the stand he has now taken, is a hard blow for those who have been making money by selling invalid base. When both houses had passed a bill which made it the duty of the governor to "set up" all fallen lieu land selections, the operators and all others interested thought the way was clear for the perfecting of the bad titles. But the governor discovered the stinger which had been hidden in the bill and in spite of the protests of those most interested, he vetoed it.

Albany, March 17.—A determined attempt is to be made to defeat the appropriation of \$500,000 made by the Oregon legislature for the Lewis and Clark Fair.

The first move in the campaign was made this morning in this city when the Referendum League was organized.

The referendum is to be used as the main weapon of the people who are desirous of knocking out the Lewis and Clark appropriation.

The referendum league was organized in this city this forenoon with Hon. J. J. Whitney as president and Hon. T. J. Stites as secretary and treasurer.

It was ordered that a petition be circulated throughout Oregon for signatures asking for the reference of the Lewis and Clark Fair bill to the people under the referendum act. Another meeting will be held Saturday.

The movement to invoke the referendum against the Lewis and Clark Fair appropriation is the direct outgrowth of the refusal of the last legislature to pass the Harris bill for the taxation and regulation of the corporations. The demand for the passage of this bill was exceedingly strong in the rural districts and its defeat called forth severe condemnation from the country press.

A similar measure was presented two years ago but failed to become a law. This fact was recalled by Speaker Harris at the last session in his argument for the passage of his bill, and he warned the assembly that if the wishes of the country districts were again ignored, the consequences might be serious.

While Speaker Harris did not instigate and perhaps does not even countenance the effort which is now being made to defeat the Fair appropriation, it unquestionably springs from the widespread dissatisfaction of which he warned the legislature. The farmers of the state realize that the Harris bill would have become a law if it had received the cordial support of the Multnomah delegation, and they felt that they had the right to de-

mand that support in view of the generous provision made for the Fair. Even before the legislature adjourned, intimations were frequently heard at Salem that the farmers would retaliate by invoking the referendum upon the Lewis and Clark appropriation.

Portland, March 17.—J. H. Davis yesterday filed suit against Hannah Nicolai, his mother-in-law, says The Oregonian, to recover \$50,000 damages for alienating his wife's affections. Mrs. Nicolai is a wealthy woman, and is the wife of Theodore Nicolai, who is a member of the Nicolai Bro. Company, which conducts a planing mill in this city.

Davis is a dentist, and is a son of Dr. L. M. Davis, also a dentist, and a well-known politician of Albina. Young Davis has recently practiced his profession at Sumpter.

The facts in the case seem to be that Mrs. Nicolai was displeased with the union of her daughter and Davis, and was not satisfied with her son-in-law's business prospects.

"My child," said the legal relative of Mr. Davis, in strict accordance with every canon of the humorist, "your husband is not good enough for you."

"I know it," said the docile daughter, and the way was paved for the onslaught of Mr. Davis upon the ducats of Mrs. Nicolai.

Mrs. Davis paid her mother a visit a short time ago, accompanied by her little boy, and her mother persuaded her to go to California, taking the child along.

The papers in the case were filed in the state circuit court by Attorney Charles F. Lord.

The complaint recites that on February 24, 1898, J. H. Davis was married to Lucy A. Nicolai, and one child was born to them on December 4, 1899.

In February, 1903, while Davis and his wife were living happily together, it is charged that Mrs. Nicolai maliciously and intending to injure him and deprive him of the comfort and society of his wife and child, counseled her to leave him. Mrs. Nicolai is alleged, in order to induce Mrs. Davis to leave the plaintiff, told her he did not support her in a fit and proper manner, and that there were several young men of greater wealth who could provide for her in a manner fitting her station in life whom she might have married, any one of whom would marry her as soon as she was divorced from her husband. The complaint further recites that by means of these false insinuations and by insidious wiles Hannah Nicolai induced Mrs. Davis to leave her husband and to depart from the state, taking the child with her.

Because of distress of mind and body which he suffers and the mental anguish caused by the loss of his wife and child, Davis demands a judgment against Mrs. Nicolai for \$50,000.

Tillamook, Or., March 17.—Fred C. Baker, editor of the Tillamook Headlight, has sued R. M. Watson, editor of the Independent, for \$5000 for libel. It is set out in the complaint that Baker, by innuendo, referred to Watson as a skunk.

Last November Watson sued Baker for libel and asked for \$6000 damages, and this suit of Baker's is in the nature of a cross-suit. Watson has offered to compromise if Baker will pay him \$1000, the difference in the amount of damages asked by each plaintiff.

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