

DEATH BY THE LAW

A. L. Belding, Murderer, Pays the Penalty.

NECK WAS BROKEN IN HANGING

Faces His Doom With Scarcely a Tremor, and Has Nothing to Say—His Final Crime.

BELDING'S HEINOUS CRIME.

The crime for which Belding yesterday paid the penalty with his life was committed on the evening of July 12. He murdered in cold blood his wife, his mother-in-law, Mrs. Lemuel McCroskey, and Francis "Duffy" Woodcock, and seriously injured his father-in-law, Lemuel McCroskey. After the deed was committed he threw his gun away and coolly walked to a near-by saloon, and invited a friend to have a drink. Belding never denied that he was guilty of the crime. At the time he said he was only sorry that he did not kill his father-in-law also. Recently he had refused to make any statement in the matter. He had been in close conference with a Catholic priest for some time, however, and it is generally understood that he died repentant.

Although the fall from the scaffold broke his neck instantly yesterday morning at 6:30 o'clock, murderer A. L. Belding was left hanging for 16 1/2 minutes before he was pronounced dead.

The execution was in every way a success. The prisoner bore up well under the strain, and stood on the scaffold without assistance until he was plunged to his death. He waived the reading of the death warrant, and declined to make a statement from the gallows. Sheriff Storey and his men had the details of the hanging well planned, and carried them out without a hitch.

The distance the murderer fell was about six feet, and his lifeless form then hung suspended about two feet from the ground. The trap was so arranged that no one knows who let the murderer down to his death. Three men sat in a room in the court house and held a rope each. These were connected with the scaffold, which was not within their view, and at a signal they all pulled together. The names of the three men are not made public, and the most careful note of every one who held the rope that was attached to the trap.

A large and curious crowd witnessed the hanging, and, if their actions belie them not, they were glad that they were there. They crowded and jammed, each trying to see the most, and not until the dead body had been carried from the small enclosure in a coffin, did they finally disperse. No noise was heard, but Dr. Littlefield, after making a brief examination of the body, said that there was no doubt but that the neck had been broken. "The entire lower part of the body was paralyzed," said the doctor. "The fact that he made no motion after he fell is evidence that his neck was broken." The body was taken directly to the Mount Calvary cemetery and buried.

Probably the most interested witness to the hanging was Fred Fiske, Sheriff of Lane County. Upon him will devolve a duty similar to that performed by Sheriff Storey yesterday. Murderer Elliott Lyons, who killed Sheriff Withers, will be hanged in Eugene April 10. Fiske was on the scaffold and took careful note of every action. Murderer Lyons will be the last man hanged by any county Sheriff in the state. According to the new law, executions hereafter will be conducted at Salem under the direction of state officials.

Crowd on Hand Early. Before 6 o'clock the crowd had gathered about the court house yard, and eagerly watched for something to happen. Ropes had been stretched and a police patrol kept the people from coming too closely. At 4 o'clock the doors were thrown open and within five minutes the small enclosure was filled with people. The capacity of the enclosure is estimated at 250, and fully that number of people were present. An invitation had been issued to the medical students to attend, and there were medical students galore. It is not sure that all the medical students knew where the school is situated, but they were students all the same, and they saw Belding hanged.

Only representatives of the press, and those directly concerned in the execution were allowed on the scaffold.

Trying to See Belding. In the small enclosure the people crowded and swayed. They were in a dilemma. If they were too close they could not see Belding when he was led onto the scaffold, and if they were too far back, they would not be able to see him after he had dropped. They were entirely too curious to be satisfied with seeing anything short of the entire proceedings, and each member of the crowd was making a frantic effort to get his position so adjusted that he would be able to see to the best advantage.

Belding meanwhile was in his cell, alone with Father Gartland, making his last prayer. He had told the Sheriff that he wanted the whole thing to be completed as soon as possible, and the Sheriff had agreed to hasten the execution once it was started. Sheriff Storey had the death warrant in his pocket, but Belding did not wish to hear it read. "I will not have anything to say at the execution," he told the jailer, and plans were made to snap the trap on time.

At 6:25 the rear door to the small enclosure creaked on its hinges. The surging crowd was silent. As if by one impulse, every hat was removed, and all stood silent but expectant. Sheriff Storey led the procession, and after him came Belding, followed by Jailer Jackson.

PARENTS' MEETING.

Superintendent Rigler and Mrs. Gillett Spoke in the Falling School. A well-attended and most enthusiastic parents' meeting was held in the Assembly of the Falling School yesterday afternoon. Professor Pratt, principal of the school, was in charge, and all the teachers were present to welcome the guests. The programme was opened with a pleasing instrumental solo by Mrs. E. E. Wright, followed by remarks by Professor Pratt, a most interesting and instructive address by Superintendent Rigler; boys' chorus by the ninth grade class; solo by Mrs. L. B. Gregory, an able paper read by Mrs. Gillett, and an instrumental solo by Miss Heinbach.

This meeting was a success in every sense of the word. There were 200 persons in attendance, and all seemed deeply interested in the work. After the literary programme, a general reception was held in the handsomely decorated Assembly Hall. The ninth grade class, in charge of Miss Porter, presented an excellent display of work. Especially attractive to the eye of the observer was her artistic display of water color work.

A Guaranteed Cure for Piles. Robbing Blind, Bleeding and Protruding Piles. No cure so quick as Allens. Prepared by the manufacturers of Farn's Ointment to find the matter where it fails to cure any case of piles, no matter how old or severe. Ordinary cases in six days; the worst cases in many more. It is guaranteed to cure. Believes itching instantly. This is a new discovery and is the only cure sold on a positive guarantee, no cure, no pay. Price 50c.

ing's head. The noose was then tightened about his neck, and the signal given to the three unknown men sitting inside the court house to trip the trap. The signal came none too soon. The last moment was fast falling upon the prisoner, and he could not have stood a moment longer. As it was he swayed just as he dropped, and his head struck one side of the opening as he darted through. For a distance of six feet he plunged and his neck was instantly broken. Not a quiver, not a motion followed the fall. His entire form was paralyzed and remained fixed.

Death in Sixteen Minutes. Dr. Littlefield and Dr. Cornelius stood by the man as he dropped, and counted the seconds until his death could be announced. Although he remained on the first that the hanging had been successful the doctors were not able to announce that death had come until 15 minutes and 20 seconds had elapsed. For over a quarter of an hour his body continued to beat, first with violence, and then slower and slower until the end. Coroner Finley was at hand with a coffin ready, as soon as the doctors pronounced Belding dead he was placed in the coffin and taken to the cemetery at once.

The crowd meanwhile had lost the feeling of awe which had controlled it. So eager were the people to view every motion of the dying man that they crowded close around him. Even the doctors had trouble in keeping space enough to move about, and to make the necessary examinations. "If medical students will come up here,"



A. L. BELDING.

announced Dr. Littlefield, "they can listen to his heart beat. It is a peculiar sort of a beat." The medical students, actual and bogus, pushed and jammed in their efforts to get near enough to hear the peculiar heart beat. A look of satisfaction was on the face of each as he listened and passed on. Perhaps he had heard a normal beat some time, and was able to realize the difference; perhaps he had not.

Coroner Finley, instead of taking the body to his undertaking parlors, sent it once to the Mount Calvary cemetery. The priest and two employees of the undertaking establishment were the only ones present at the burial. Several thousand curious people called at the undertaking parlors during the day, and asked to be allowed to see Belding's body, and they would scarcely believe the word of Mr. Finley when he told them that Belding had been buried.

The Jury's Verdict. In the office of the Sheriff, the Sheriff's jury appeared and signed their names to the verdict that had already been prepared for them.

It reads as follows, and will be filed with the County Clerk as a legal certificate that the mandate of the Judge has been obeyed: "We, the undersigned, bona fide electors of Multnomah County, State of Oregon, do hereby certify that the execution of the death warrant issued out of the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Multnomah County, dated February 26, A. D. 1903, in the case of the State of Oregon vs. A. Lester Belding, did take place on Friday, the 27th day of March, A. D. 1903, at the hour of six-thirty (6:30) within the enclosure of the jail or jailyard of said county in our presence, and in the presence of each other we certify that the said warrant was faithfully performed by the Sheriff of said county or his deputies.

Dated at Portland, Multnomah County, this 27th day of March, A. D. 1903. (Signed) W. N. Chambers, Dr. P. S. Langworthy, C. Minsinger, Emil Gulch, Dr. E. L. Perkins, W. R. Cady, Fred T. Merrill, H. Smith, Joseph L. Reed, Richard Mielke, George H. Torgler and F. W. Hollister.

Among those inside the enclosure were following: Sheriff Fred Fiske, of Lane County; J. S. Stiles, Chief of Police of Eugene; William Bernard, the actor; Sheriff R. S. Holton, of Columbia; Emil Kurich, Dr. Thornton, Condemner John P. Sharkey, T. D. Condon, racehorse man, and Captain Moore.

WILL TALK TO GRANGERS. John F. Caples Will Tell His Experiences to Evening Star Members.

On Saturday, April 4, Evening Star Grange, No. 2, Patrons of Husbandry, will, in accordance with a resolution recently adopted, hold an open session in Multnomah Hall in the afternoon, from 1:30 to about 3:30. On this occasion a special educational programme will be given. The object is to promote an educational interest in the community. It is expected that these events may be held quarterly. Judge John F. Caples, ex-United States Consul at Valparaiso, will be present. He thus answers the invitation sent to him: "I thank the Evening Star Grange, No. 2, Patrons of Husbandry, very kindly for the invitation you have given me to be with the Grange on the afternoon of the first Saturday in April, and have an opportunity of talking with the members regarding to my experiences abroad, or whatever may be of interest to them concerning which I may be informed. I shall be pleased to be with you on that occasion, unless prevented by circumstances beyond my control. I am aware that there are many old pioneers members of this Grange, with whom I have had very friendly and cordial acquaintance for many years, and, as above stated, am glad of the opportunity to meet them."

East Side Notes. Rev. Fred G. Keater, D. D., of Olympia, bishop of Western Oregon, will spend Sunday in Portland, and tomorrow morn-

WORK ON NEW SCHOOL

HIGHLAND TO HAVE A MODERN BUILDING.

New Structure Will Have Ten Rooms and Assembly Hall—Citizens Clean Up the Suburb.

Work on the foundation of the new schoolhouse at Highland was started yesterday. The Board of Education has learned that it is impossible to get a large modern school building erected during vacation in time for opening of the Fall term in September. The district owns 30x120 feet at Highland, and hence the foundation can be laid and work on the new building can go forward without interfering with the school. A ten-room building will be erected, independent of a fine assembly hall, which will be connected with the present four-room building now in use, thus providing a 14-room schoolhouse with assembly hall. The plans are for an 18-room building, but four rooms will not be built this year.

Principal J. H. Stanley reports that he has nine rooms occupied, and that at the opening next Fall at least 12 rooms will be required. A large number of pupils who really belong to the Highland School

ing at 11 o'clock will occupy the pulpit of St. David's Church, East Twelfth street. J. Orr, a young man employed at the Southern Pacific carshops, was taken to St. Vincent's Hospital Thursday evening to be treated for pneumonia, but died yesterday morning. He was a very vigorous young man, and before becoming sick seemed the picture of physical health. He had been employed in the carshops some time.

The concrete foundation for the tank for the Portland Gas Company, on the northeast corner of East Ankeny and East Third streets, is completed, and work has been commenced on the steel bottom. Sheets of steel are being riveted together, which will rest on the foundation. The tank will be circular and will be 30 feet in diameter.

Mrs. Lucy E. wife of E. H. Virgil, of the East Side, died in the Good Samaritan Hospital Thursday night from the effects of a surgical operation performed about two weeks ago. Mrs. Virgil had been an invalid for a number of years, and for nearly two years was confined to her home. Owing to her age and feeble condition she could not recover. Mrs. Virgil had been a resident of Portland for about 35 years.

The new baseball grounds on Hawthorne avenue, near East Twelfth street, is being inclosed and the grandstand erected. The ground inclosed is 300x400 feet. The fence which is being put up is ten feet high. The grandstand will be on the corner of Hawthorne avenue and East Twelfth street, a few steps from the tracks of the Oregon Water Power & Railroad Company. A steam roller has been worked over the diamond.

A pleasing concert was rendered last evening in the First United Brethren Church, East Fifteenth street. The following programme was rendered: The Chorus, "Glorious Father's Love," Miss Jessie McConnell; violin solo, Miss Minnie Hatfield; "Tell Her I Love Her So," I. D. Boyer; reading, "The Fireman's Story," Miss Dorris Clark; solo, Miss Jean Shupp; rendition, "Webber's Mandolin and Guitar Club"; reading, Miss Anna Ditchburn; White; rendition, "Webber's Mandolin and Guitar Club."

The McKay building in Lower Albina, which was damaged by the recent fire, is being repaired. It is a three-story brick, on Russell street, and was badly burned, as the fire from across the street was swept directly against the upper portion. It was damaged to the amount of about \$5000, and repairs will be finished about the 1st of June. Tenants who occupied the rooms were compelled to seek other quarters, which was not an easy matter to do, owing to the crowded condition of all structures in that part of the city.

WERE WELL ADVERTISED

Friends of Newly Married Couple Play Practical Joke. Residents of Nob Hill, and particularly that part of Nob Hill in the immediate vicinity of Gibson and Eighteenth streets, have been greatly entertained during the past week by a gigantic banner tacked to the front of a neat house near the corner of those streets. The banner was rather simple, and was in itself not calculated to inspire mirth, but the legend that it bore was what did the business.

Readers of the society columns of the daily papers probably knew what was coming when they saw the dwelling, which is the southern half of the double house on the east corner of the intersection, made spick and span for new occupants. They were not prepared for what followed, however, as the testimony of the neighbors proves.

One fine morning last week, when all the world was glad that a new day had come, and the little birds were singing sweetly in the trees, the neighbors awoke and found that someone had staked out the house and had claimed it according to law, with a banner.

The banner was very similar to one of those used to tell about the merits of a Sixth-street charity fair on a rummage sale, and was painted in letters similar to those used on Front street to tell of the best steamer to Astoria. The legend was simple, and ran thus: "This house will be occupied by Mr. Sam Archer and bride, after March 31."

The banner has been removed. No longer the painted mirth floats in the breeze to tell about the married man. It has been the Constitution's tattered ensign, been torn down. Mr. Archer moved into his new home Thursday evening, and it was of the occasion that he did not need any more advertising.

GRATEFUL FOR AID.

Portland Scandinavians Receive Thanks From Sweden Sufferers. The money which was raised by the Scandinavians of Portland by an entertainment given early in February for the benefit of the suffering people of Northern Sweden has been gratefully received by the committee in charge of the rescue work. The draft which was sent from Portland February 27, amounting to \$100, was made payable to the order of King Oscar. W. W. Thomas, the United States Minister to Sweden, took the letter to the King, who expressed his gratitude at the action of the Scandinavians of Portland, as well as in other parts of the United States. "The manner in which the Swedish-Americans have responded to the call of the famine-stricken people of Northern Sweden has deeply touched my heart," the King is reported to have said, according to a letter received by C. B. Borquist, treasurer of the committee which superintended the raising of the money in Portland. Minister Thomas wrote to Mr. Borquist, telling him of the manner in which the contribution was received by the people of Sweden. The secretary of the relief committee acknowledged the receipt of the money in one of the newspapers of Stockholm.

The Scandinavians of Portland have sent nearly \$1000 to aid in the suffering of Sweden. The members of the committee here have been untiring in their efforts to arouse Swedish-Americans to give to the aid of the famine-stricken people of the Old Country, and the call we find in vain. The contributors to this cause feel glad that the work they did in Portland was appreciated in far-off Sweden.

BUSINESS ITEMS. If Baby is Cutting Teeth. Be sure you use that old and well-tried remedy, NEWBRO'S BABY TEETHING POWDER. It soothes the child, softens the gums, kills all pain, cures wind colic and diarrhoea.

FIFTY YEARS THE STANDARD NEWBRO'S BABY TEETHING POWDER

NEWBRO'S BABY TEETHING POWDER Awarded Highest Honors World's Fair Highest tests U.S. Gov't Chemist PRIZE BAKING POWDER CO. CHICAGO

SUNNY JIM is coming next week in person. He will call at your house and present you with a large package of "FORCE" Give it a fair trial, and you will learn why he became Sunny Jim

Dr. Lyon's PERFECT Tooth Powder Used by people of refinement for over a quarter of a century PREPARED BY J. W. Lyon, D.D.S.

Don't Show Your Teeth Unless they are properly cared for and wholesome to look upon. We correct all irregularities, fit plates, fill cavities, straighten teeth and perform the most scientific crown and bridge work, without inflicting the slightest pain. DR. B. E. WRIGHT'S DENTAL OFFICE 342 1/2 Washington, Cor. Seventh Consultation Free. Fees Reasonable. Office hours: 8 A. M. to 5 P. M.; evenings, 7:30 to 8:30. Sundays, 10 A. M. to 12 M. Telephone North 2391.

She Refused Him! But do you blame her? She was young, and he appeared, at first sight, old enough to be her father. It grieved her deeply, too, to realize that she could never tell him that the cause of her refusal was his single misfortune--baldness.

NEWBRO'S HERPICIDE Kills the germ that causes the dandruff and falling hair, but it must be used before the hair follicles are completely destroyed. "Consider why the change was wrought. You'll find it his misfortune, not his fault." Addison's familiar lines apply particularly to the unfortunate gentleman portrayed in the drawing, for when he was a boy, Professor Unna, Europe's greatest dermatologist, had not yet discovered that a microbe is the underlying cause of dandruff, falling hair and baldness. Indifference to baldness on the part of some young men is one of the surprising conditions formerly met with, but there was a good reason for this indifference. The world did not know dandruff to be a very contagious disease; in fact, it was regarded as a perfectly normal condition. The falling hair and itching scalp, that followed dandruff, was regarded as a matter of course. Baldness often appeared to "run" in certain families, but a single overworked hair-brush usually arranged this misfortune by planting the dandruff microbes in one scalp after another. Prior to Unna's discovery, medical men shot the entire pharmaceutical alphabet at falling hair, but it still continued to fall. Alcohol headed the list, then came Bay Rum, Borax, Bitter Apple and Bear's grease. C proved a favorite letter for hair treatment; it brought Castoreum, Castor Oil, and the beautiful green blistering bugs from Spain, called Cantharides. Cantharides was the king pin of all hair preparations during the dark ages of scalp knowledge, but fortunately for the people, its use is now confined to raising blisters on the skin. Speaking of it, a well-known scalp specialist says: "What on earth gave Cantharides its reputation in hair tonics is more than I know. It is the tradition of a century, and it is all nonsense. It cuts into the scarfkin, causing inflammation, and it is made out of dead bugs, so that it furnishes the elements of decomposition upon which scalp microbes thrive. Its use upon the scalp should be forbidden by law." Quinine was a popular hair tonic when the discovery of the dandruff microbe completely exploded the "hair tonic" fallacy, and proved the absolute necessity of a germicide in hair care and preservation. Newbro's Herpicide is the first and only successful scalp germicide ever offered. It has been tested by hundreds of physicians, who continue to use it in their daily practice. Once kill the scalp microbe with Newbro's Herpicide, and dandruff will disappear, itching scalp will cease, and falling hair stop, thus permitting Nature, the only true "hair grower," to do its work. In many cases of acute baldness, if the hair follicles are not completely destroyed, a full new crop of hair may be grown. Dr. N. A. Herring, of Benton Harbor, Mich., writes: "I have tested Newbro's Herpicide in several extreme cases of dandruff, and the results were very satisfactory."

IT STOPS ITCHING OF THE SCALP ALMOST INSTANTLY. Get a Sample Direct from the Factory.

CUT THIS OUT. I inclose 10 cents in stamps to buy postage and packing upon a sample of NEWBRO'S HERPICIDE. Name _____ Street and No. _____ City and State _____ Address The Herpicide Co., Detroit, Mich.

A Healthy Hair. Destroy the cause--you remove the effect. An Unhealthy Hair.