

FELON IN CELL

Slayer of Edna Hoffman Is Captured.

TRIES TO KILL HIMSELF

Slashes His Throat With a Razor.

HE CONFESSES HIS CRIME

John Coleman. After His Arrest, Declares That He Will Yet Cheat the Gallows by Committing Suicide.

COLEMAN MURDER CASE.
John T. Coleman confesses to the murder of Edna Hoffman, which occurred at 1 o'clock Sunday morning in a room above the Palm saloon.

At the coroner's inquest the testimony of witnesses is heard, and a graphic story of the scene of the crime and the flight of the murderer is told by Bartender Edward McSweeney. The latter believes that Coleman meant to kill John Furey, of whom he was jealous, as he went into Furey's room immediately after killing the woman. McSweeney was following him closely, however, and the murderer ran out into the street. The jury holds Coleman responsible for the murder.

Coleman is captured at Chehalis, Wash., three attempts to commit suicide, but is saved from death, is returned to Portland and lodged in the County Jail, where he is bound to his cot and kept under guard.

When a coroner's jury was listening to testimony at the inquest into the murder of Edna Hoffman last night, in an endeavor to fix upon the guilty person the responsibility of the woman's death, John T. Coleman lay on a cot in the County Jail and to an Oregonian reporter made a full confession of the crime.

"Yes, I killed her," said Coleman, with as much emphasis as a man can command who has three attempts to take his own life by slashing his throat with a razor. "I might as well admit it," he continued. "I killed her, and I'll kill myself, too, before I'll hang."

Murderer Bound to Cot.
Coleman, the self-confessed murderer, spent last night in the County Jail, bound securely to the cot upon which he slept. This precaution was necessary as he has three attempts to take his own life, and has sworn to attempt it again.

Coleman arrived from Chehalis at 7 o'clock last night, in the custody of Detectives Kerrigan and Snow, who had charge of the case. He was accompanied by Dr. G. W. Kennelth, who was formerly a hospital physician. Coleman was operated upon after his first attempt at suicide. The prisoner was immediately removed to the County Jail in an ambulance.

Coleman has confessed that he murdered Edna Hoffman, and has also told the detectives how he escaped from Portland.

Confesses His Crime.
"I followed Edna Hoffman to Portland because I loved her," he said. "While she was sick in Spokane I took care of her, but after she recovered she left me and went to Portland. I followed her and finally located her early Sunday morning. I asked her to go back to Spokane with me, and she laughed at me and refused to do so. Then the bartender came up and said someone below wanted to see her. She started to go down, and I ran up behind her, grabbed her and cut her throat. Yes, I killed her. I might as well admit it. I killed her, and I'll kill myself, too, before I'll hang."

According to Coleman's statement he went from the scene of the crime to the Spanish restaurant on Duane street, between Third and Fourth and drank a cup of coffee. Then he boarded a car and rode to the vicinity of the Exposition grounds. He got into the car there and walked down the river to Goble. He crossed the Kalama and took the Northern Pacific there. On the train was Charles Washfield, who was formerly a bartender and knew Coleman. He had read newspaper accounts of the crime and knew that Coleman was the guilty man. He communicated with the conductor of the train and they decided to act when Centralia was reached. At that station Coleman was made captive by the train crew, bound and taken to jail. The sheriff from Chehalis drove over to Centralia and returned to Chehalis with the prisoner. As the jail was reached, Coleman suddenly took from his pocket the razor with which he had killed her.

Not even the hand of death laid upon a victim as James McDonald, a collector of bills. While the body of Edna Hoffman lay upon a slab in the morgue, and just before the jury was to sit at the inquest, McDonald entered and sought an audience with Acting Coroner A. J. Finley. He had a bill aggregating \$200 against the murdered woman; that he had heard she owned jewelry worth several hundred dollars, and that he wished to proceed to collect. He was informed she died a pauper. He left, saying he was sorry he could not get the money.

which he had killed Edna Hoffman, and slashed his throat three times, before the officers could prevent him. It is declared that the officers were careless, as they had failed to search Coleman carefully and did not have him handcuffed at the time.

Taken to Hospital.
He was removed to the hospital of Dr. Kennelth, and there an operation was performed. When Detectives Kerrigan and Snow reached Chehalis and saw the condition of the prisoner, they communicated with Chief of Police Hunt, of this city, and received orders to bring Coleman to Portland as soon as he could be moved. Dr. Kennelth stated that the prisoner could be moved, and offered to come to Portland with the party. Before they left Chehalis Coleman attempted twice to rip the bandages from his throat. "I was prevented only by the plucky actions of a nurse."

"I think he will recover and be able to stand trial," said Dr. Kennelth last night. "He will have to be watched very carefully, however, as he has sworn to commit suicide if given a chance. He lost a great deal of blood before the operation. He severed the windpipe. His pulse is nearly normal now, however, and all he needs is close watching. He is a man of wonderful vitality."

Last night Coleman was carefully

guarded, and the watch will be continued until his case is disposed of. In view of the fact that he has confessed and that clear and undisputed evidence has been collected, even to his bloody clothes and the razor with which he committed the deed, it seems probable that Coleman will pay the penalty for his crime.

That Coleman premeditated not only the murder of Edna Hoffman, but that he meant also to kill John Furey, was the declaration of Edward McSweeney, before the coroner's jury last night.

Testimony of Witness.
"I had just been upstairs to tell Edna Hoffman that a hackdriver wished to see her at the foot of the stairs, and she said she would be right down, when Coleman called her back to him and killed her," said McSweeney, the bartender at the Palm saloon, and the only person to see Coleman with the woman, and to see him as he fled from the scene of the crime.

"I had just reached the bottom of the stairs, when I heard a scuffling, and started back. I thought Coleman had struck the woman, of whom he was jealous, and determined to go upstairs and protect her. I found her grasping the railing. She tried to speak, but could not. Coleman opened the door leading down the rear, and turned his face so that I got a good look at it. I then knew that he had killed the woman, and thought he was making for Furey's room, to kill him. I followed him, and as he entered Furey's room, I was close to asleep. Coleman called to me, warning him. Coleman hesitated a moment, and then unbolting another door and fled into Fourth street. I believe that had not I been right after him, Coleman would have killed Furey, because he was jealous of him on account of the fact that the murdered woman paid Furey a good deal of attention."

"Coleman had been warned to keep away from the Palm saloon, as the woman had requested the proprietor to see that he did not get to see her. In view of this, however, when I went up to tell her the hackman wished to speak to her, she and Coleman were seated at a table partaking of food. Coleman told me several times that he was infatuated with her. He said he had spent a small fortune on her, but was without funds now and wished her to assist him in his poverty."

Verdict of Coroner's Jury.
The inquest began at 4 o'clock, with Acting Coroner A. L. Finley and Deputy District Attorney H. B. Adams in charge. The testimony of John Hill, proprietor of the Palm saloon; Assistant City Physician Slocum, Edward Burns and John Furey, was taken, after which the inquest adjourned until 7:30 o'clock, owing to the fact that McSweeney could not be located. Dr. Slocum was called to the scene of the murder immediately after it occurred. He testified that death resulted from knife wounds in the throat. The testimony of the other witnesses was corroborative of that given by McSweeney.

The verdict of the coroner's jury follows: "That Edna Hoffman came to her death at No. 42 North Fourth street, Portland, Ore., at about 1 o'clock Sunday morning, April 2, 1905, from the effect of knife wounds, inflicted by a person known to the jury as Jack Coleman."

The scene of the murder is where crimes innumerable have occurred, it being formerly in charge of "Bob" Patterson, a notorious character, now facing the penitentiary for larceny committed there. It was known for years as the "Favorite" saloon.



John Coleman, Murderer of Edna Hoffman.

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AT THE THEATERS
What the Press Agents Say.

At the Empire Tonight.
Tonight, at the Empire Theater, Fritz Kreisler, the eminent young Austrian violinist, will give one of the recitals which have caused such a sensation from the Atlantic to the Pacific. There are but two cities in the Northwest where Kreisler will play, Portland and Seattle, and the event is arousing the greatest interest. The concert is under the personal direction of Lols Steers-Wynn Coman, and will begin at half past eight.

"The Marriage of Kitty."
"The Marriage of Kitty," a comedy written by Charles Edward Stuart Cosmo Gordon Lennox for production in London by his better half, Marie Tempest, will be seen at the Marjoram Grand on Monday and Tuesday nights, April 30 and 31, when Jules Murry's Metropolitan company, headed by Max Pigman, will appear. The play is said to be wholesome, refined, full of wit, epigram and ludicrous situations. The advance sale of seats will open next Friday morning at 10 o'clock.

"A Runaway Girl" Tonight.
Tonight, Wednesday and Thursday nights, the Pollard Lilliputian Opera Company will present the charming musical comedy, "A Runaway Girl," in which they make such a decided hit last night at the Marjoram Grand Theater. Friday night and Saturday matinee, "A Gaiety Girl" will be the bill. Saturday night, "An American Millionaire." Seats are now selling for the entire week.

AT THE VAUDEVILLE THEATERS
Grand.
The newest thing in vaudeville is a Chinese baritone, Lee Tong Foo, who sings at the Grand this week and makes good. He has a good voice and gives an act that is not of the kind commonly met with every day. Bartlett and Collins, in grotesque comedy, are the top-notchers and the strongest team on the bill. Their excellent work must be heard to be believed, and they are sure to make the biggest kind of a hit. Sanson and Zeebo, billed as the world's strongest duo, present an act of the sensational order. Sanson snapped steel chains by the mere expansion of his mighty right arm, and he lifted a burden weighing probably 200 pounds with one of his fingers. He has enviable muscular development. Not to be outdone, Zeebo mounted a pedestal, and with her teeth sawed a case bearing a young man pianist and a piano. She ought to be billed the Zeebo Express Company. Orville Pitcher, stump-speaker and singer, talks in such a cool, collected manner that he has inserted a dozen jokes, harpoon fashion, before you are aware of it. Other acts: Murray Hill, monologist; the Keltie Trio, unique

Lawn Mowers—Best to Be Had—At the Lowest Prices

The Meier & Frank Store

Peninsular Stoves and Ranges Guaranteed
Trunks, Traveling Bags—Greatest Variety

Conservative judgment, a steady growth since 1857, the welfare of its patrons continually in mind, has made The Meier & Frank Store, Portland's Largest and Best and Always-to-Be-Relied-Upon Department Store in the Northwest

Specials in Spring and Summer Materials

This store's showing of Summer Fabrics far excels all previous efforts—With yesterday's sunshine there arrived many pretty effects for today's selling—Here are a few new things for your choosing and the prices make them doubly attractive—

New Silk Stripe Voiles that are so popular and stylish and make up so prettily for **36c**

Shirtwaists and Shirtwaist Suits..... **39c**

Soie Boucle Madras in pretty patterns, all colors and one of the many serviceable effects we are showing..... **39c**

30c and 35c White Ground Voile with colored figures in Dolly Varden effects and an exceptional value at..... **23c**

Millinery Some extremely stylish new arrivals make the display in this Section unusually attractive today.

Great Easter Sale of Pictures

Our Picture Store suggests some ideas for Easter—An appropriate picture or scene—We have a splendid showing and this morning we place on sale some very tempting values—

Second Floor

Hand-colored Oriental pictures framed in handsome black frames, our regular \$2.25 pictures. **99c**

Special..... **99c**

Framed water color pictures in black and gilt frames, panel shapes, size 5x12. **89c**

Special..... **89c**

Another good value in an odd lot of framed pictures intended to sell for \$2.00. Special **\$1.39**

at..... **\$1.39**

We are also showing the latest novelties in posters, too many to describe here.

In the Men's Apparel Section

The Meier & Frank Store's Clothing Is Correct
Styles Are Always the Latest
Prices Are Always the Lowest

Men's all-wool, navy blue Serge Suits—Single or double-breasted—Exceptionally well-tailored suit at the low price of..... **\$15.00**

Men's Wear

Two bargains shown in our Morrison-street display that should interest every economical dresser and items that are new and stylish at prices far below their actual worth

\$1.00 GOLF SHIRTS 83c

Men's new pleated white golf shirts, made with the new box pleats, regular \$1.00 values.

\$1.00 UNDERWEAR 85c

Men's super-weight natural wool underwear, the kind that does not shrink or scratch, regular \$1.00 values.

musical act; Alf Bonner, song illustrator, in "Mamma's Boy," and the Grandioso.

Star.
Trained pigeons, cockatoos, macaws and dogs! In stage language, they comprise the Panhaskia Animal Show at the Star, and the act is one of the most interesting and instructive spectacles of the season. As most people know, the macaw is essentially an American bird, and there are at least 15 species known. Well, the boss macaw at the Star is a born aristocrat and his brilliant collection of reds and greens, to say nothing of his glittering tail, would make a professional dyer squirm with envy. The other birds act as a fire brigade and extinguish a blaze in a manner that is both ludicrous and interesting. The dogs perform all sorts of tricks, and the whole act is just the one for children. Alexander and Company, billed as the handuff king, performs uncanny tricks that savor of witchies and broomstick days. One minute he is bound with ropes and chains, and the next he is free in an unexplained way. Russell is an excellent gymnast and has marvelous physical development for a man of his size. Other acts: Ferrington and Boyle, comedy; The Demonicos, in Roman ringwork; Billy Tan, comedian; Morgan and Chester, sketch team; Bogos, Arbuckle, song illustrator, and the projectoscope.

Baker.
All who have passed under the spell of Ernest Thompson Seton's animal stories, and they are many, will experience a thrill of pleasure in the act of Robert and his two trained bears. The bears roll hoops, walk on ladders, and it's worth the price of admission to see the baby bear fight for his bottle of milk. The musical Thors, great xylophone and banjo virtuoso, are probably top-liners, and their work causes great enjoyment. McLain and McLain, a colored man and a white woman, have an act that's actually new to vaudeville, and their work when the fake body is run over by the railroad engine provokes roars of laughter. Other acts are: Paves, mechanical doll; Jean Wilson, song illustrator; Al Hazard, ventriloquist; Powers and Theobald, the human doll and her bear, and the biograph.

Artistic Picture Framing to Your Order—Lowest Prices

The Meier & Frank Store

Special Sale \$1.50 Copyright Books at 50c—First Floor
Our Dress Goods Department Offers Skirts Made Free

Spec'l Hosiery Values

Here is an opportunity for the ladies to secure some splendid Hosiery values at prices not to be overlooked—

The Bargain for Today
\$1.25, \$1.50, \$1.75, \$2

Hose \$1.19 Pr.

This Sale includes our entire line of fine French Lace Lisle Hose in all! over lace patterns—This store's Hosiery does not need any further comment—Lively selling is certainly assured for today

Boys April number of the "American Boy" magazine is now ready for distribution. Bring your card and secure a copy.

Suits, Petticoats and Waists

All at Reduced Prices—\$30 and \$32 Suits \$24.65

Great Easter offering of 200 Women's handsome Tailored Suits, in Voiles, Sicilians, Serges, Shepherds, Worsteds and Chevots, in blouses, Etons and jacket effects; tight-fitting and Norfolk; colors include blues, greens, browns, checks, blacks, tans and grays; the very best \$30.00 and \$32.00 values for the low price of \$24.65 each. **\$24.65**

Second Floor..... **\$24.65**

Just received by express, entire new line of Tan Covert Jackets, the very newest ideas, an unequalled display at prices from \$7.50 to..... **\$36.00**

We are showing the latest things in Linen Suits, both Etons and Redingotes, hand-embroidered and fancy trimmed, at very low prices. Thousands of the prettiest Silk Shirtwaist Suits.

New line of Shirtwaist Suits, white and colors, lace and embroidery trimmed, very pretty styles, \$20.00 to \$48.00 each. Our display of costumes and wraps is the grandest in the city.

Silk Petticoats at \$5.45

For Tuesday and Wednesday, 400 Taffeta Silk Petticoats, a special purchase we are able to offer at about one-third below their value. These Skirts, made of superior quality Taffeta Silk, have deep accordion-plaited flounce and two rows of ruchings; full width and splendidly made; colors are navy, royal, light blue, pink, white, light green, brown, tan and black; your choice..... **\$5.45**

Japanese Silk Waists

We are showing a magnificent line of new Jap Silk Waists, trimmed with round-mesh Vais and Irish crochet laes and English eyelet embroideries with small tucks and sideplaits; prices range from \$3.75 to \$30.00 each.

Entire new line of Embroidered Linen Waists, tucked and lace-trimmed; the grandest showing in the city at prices from \$4.75 to \$65.00 each.

See the hand-made French Waists.

Men's all-wool, fine blue unfinished Worsted Suits in single or double-breasted, finely-finished and hand-tailored suit..... **\$20.00**

Men's fine all-wool, fancy Worsted Suits in neat, dark stripes and overlaid of the newest designs—Suit..... **\$22.50**

Men's extra fine Worsted Cheviot Suits in new overlaid—Equal to any merchant tailor's make—Suit..... **\$25.00**

Spring weather suggests Outing Suits—We have them in Homespuns and fancy Flannels ranging up from \$7.50 to, suit..... **\$20.00**

Our assortment of Outing Trousers is complete, with Belt Loops and Turnover Bottoms; prices range from \$2.50 to..... **\$5.00**

For Spring and Summer there's nothing cooler than a Washable Vest. Our assortment is great and prices range from \$5.00 down to..... **\$1.25**

Boys' Clothing at Special Prices

Boys' Washable Russian Suits, in tan, blue and pink striped Chambray, sizes 2½ to 6 years, best \$1.50 values for..... **\$1.19**

Boys' All-Wool Knee Pants in good, serviceable mixtures, ages 3 to 15 years; our best 75c values, on sale for..... **49c**

Boys' Norfolk and 2-piece Double-Breasted Suits, brown and gray mixtures and plaids, ages 8 to 14 years, best \$4.50 values..... **\$3.80**

Boys' Russian Blouse Suits, for little boys, 2½ to 6 years, light grays, tans, navy, royal blue and reds, \$6.00-\$6.50 values..... **\$4.95**

Young Men's Suits in Chevots and fancy Worsteds, this season's best styles, ages 14 to 20 years, our best \$10.00 garments, on sale for..... **\$8.15**

Young Men's Suits and Topcoats, this season's newest fashions and materials, from the most prominent makers, \$10.00 to..... **\$25.00**

With every purchase of Suit or Topcoat at regular price to the amount of \$5.00 or over we give a year's subscription to the "American Boy," the biggest and best boys' paper, free of charge. See that you buy your clothing here.

WRAPPER SALE.
Most remarkable bargains ever offered in ladies' percale wrappers, in light and dark colors at 50c, 65c, 75c and 85c. Any garment is readily worth the price. Come today.

MALLEN & McDONNELL.

Throws Proprietor Out of Hotel.
A. C. Eller was arrested at 1 o'clock this morning on a charge of assault and battery, preferred by A. J. Dietz, one of the proprietors of the Scott Hotel. This is about the fourth act in a row that has been going on between Dietz and his partner, Stevenson, the opening act occurring when one would not give up the keys to the safe and the other had to blow it open. Eller is a new actor on the scene and appears as a henchman of Stevenson, hired for the purpose of throwing Dietz out of the hotel, which he safely accomplished, only to find himself immediately arrested.

New Manager of Moffat Road.
DENVER, April 4.—Announcement was made today that William A. Duell, superintendent of the Union Pacific Railroad, with headquarters at Omaha, has been appointed general manager of the Denver, Northwestern & Pacific (the Moffat road) and will enter upon his new duties on May 1. Mr. Duell also becomes general manager of the Colorado-Utah Construction Company, which has the contract for constructing the Moffat road.