

LETTERS MAY BE WORK OF DEFENSE

Scheme to Save Necks of the Baxters.

MYSTERY IN MURDER CASE

Damaging Evidence Against Men Now on Trial.

GANG HAD OTHER MEMBERS

Father and Son Identified by Man and Woman Who Saw Them Bending Over Dying Man. Sheriff Has New Theory.

BY WILL G. MAC RAE.

KALAMA, Wash., May 1.—(Special.)—Did the Baxters, father and son, now on trial here for the murder of James Connors, the tramp who was shot at Woodland on March 28, have a hand in the murder of the unidentified man whose body was found yesterday two and a half miles north of here, as anonymous letters to the officials of Cowlitz County said it would be? Or did the gang of yegs men with whom the Baxters traveled, kill this man and have a hand in the crime for which father and son are being tried? This is the mystery that Judge W. V. McCredie and the county officials are trying to solve. If the Baxters and their pals did commit both crimes, they have worked up a most elaborate scheme to save the Baxters from the hangman's noose. The story of the murder of Connors at Woodland is old, but the finding of the body of a young man with two bullet holes in his head, a supposed companion of the gang that had been drinking and quarreling that March Saturday afternoon and evening at Woodland is new, and it is by the finding of this body that the pals of the Baxters have hopes of securing their freedom.

Whether they escape rests with the jury that is trying the case, but unless the testimony that will be offered by the defense tomorrow is stronger than that of District Attorney B. L. Hubbell, every information of, there is every reason to believe that the well laid plans of the gang that was in Woodland will fail.

Saw Baxter Beside Dead Man.

At the trial today two eye witnesses, L. W. Flanders and his wife, both testified to having seen the two Baxters bending over Connors as he was dying. The Flanders were in the cars occupied by the men who were building bridges, and when they heard the shots both rushed to the car door and on the witness stand swore they saw the Baxters in the act of kneeling beside the dying man.

Other witnesses testified to having seen the Baxters and the four other members of the gang drinking and quarreling during the afternoon. They identified Tom Baxter, the son, as one of the men quarreling with a man that answered the description of Connors. This is as far as the prosecution can go, and District Attorney Hubbell rested his case late this afternoon.

Heard Two Shots Fired.

Carter and his son are supposed to have seen three men on the Kalama bridge going north a short distance from where the body was found. A little later they heard two shots. Considerable importance is placed upon the hearing of two shots because the dead man had two bullet holes in his head.

It was through three anonymous letters that the discovery of the second murder was brought to light. One of the letters was written to Sheriff A. F. Kirby, one to District Attorney Hubbell and the third to the Seattle Post-Intelligencer. The letters to the District Attorney and to Sheriff Kirby were written by the same man, but the letter to Sheriff Kirby was written by a woman, or by someone who made a wretched attempt to disguise the writing. Two of the letters were mailed at Spokane. The one to the Sheriff was mailed at Pasco, Wash.

If the letters are a plot to help free the Baxters of the killing of Connors it has been well attempted but bunglingly done. In the letter to Sheriff Kirby the writer says that he met a man, who, while drunk, confessed to the killing of both Connors and the man found yesterday. It also says that the man who made the confession was killed a few days later in a wreck at Kennewick in which five tramps were killed, and that he had gone to Kennewick and identified the murderer.

Letters Have Things Mixed.

This letter falls flat, for the two other letters, supposed to have been written by the murderer himself, bear the date of April 25, while the Pasco letter was mailed April 25. The Kennewick wreck took place April 21, so it is evident that the man who is supposed to have made the confession was not killed. It shows that the plotters got their dates mixed.

The theory of the officials here is

that some member of the gang got a woman to write the Pasco letter and then tried to back it up by sending two others from Spokane. The fact remains that whoever wrote the letters knew of the second murder, for the body was found in the spot described in all three letters. The letter from Pasco follows:

His Conscience Had Hurt Him.

Pasco, Wash., April 25, 1907.—Sir: A few days ago I met a young man who was under the influence of liquor and he told me of a crime he committed in Woodland some time in March where he shot a man four or five times and it was bothering him to know that it was either men or women. He further told me he was going to write a letter to the county attorney and also to some leading paper in Seattle to show that when men got an entirely innocent man for the crime. He further stated that he killed another man a brother of the dead



Baron Kuroki, of Japan, Who Landed at Victoria Yesterday.

man you found down the track counting north. It might be a few miles of where he killed the first one he said he shot him twice with the same gun and dragged his body about a hundred yards from the track and buried him under a pile of brush and that he is not found yet but stated to me whether to see this man sacred that he would make a full confession and the almighty God seen difference for me met a horrible death a few days after. I have taking trouble to go there and identify the dead body that made that horrible confession as one of the men killed in the Kennewick wreck last Sunday morning that he called himself Slim and some other name. I have forgotten now, dear sir, he so kind to get such body and hunt the woods along the road for I am sure he was telling the truth and oblige. I am a hard working man myself and don't wish anything to do in the matter. He further stated he was a lone when he killed both men.

A mackinaw coat was also found near the body. The elder Baxter was asked to give the names of his companions, but he could not. He said, however, one of them wore a mackinaw coat and described the one that was found.

Members of Gang Still at Large.

The officials so far have been unable to determine which of the men was killed first. They are not of the opinion that the dead men were brothers. From investigations so far, it would seem, owing to the fact that there were six in the gang at Woodland, that three of the gang fled after the killing of Connors, and if the shots that Carter heard on the Sunday following were the ones that killed the second man, he was killed because he knew of the murder of Connors. This he would leave two of the gang still at large, and it is they who wrote the anonymous letters.

The other two letters were written by a man of some education, the spelling and

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GENERAL KUROKI COMES ON SHORE

He Lands at Victoria Wearing Khaki.

BIG CANNON BOOM SALUTE

Speaks to Little Children Gathered to Greet Him.

TO REACH SEATTLE TODAY

Distinguished Soldier Is Met by Lieutenant-Governor Dunsmuir and Band Plays Japanese National Anthem as the Party Lands.

VICTORIA, B. C., May 1.—General Baron Kuroki, wearing a khaki uniform and the star of the Order of Pawlonia, accompanied by a representative of the party of Japanese military men, arrived here at 5 P. M. on board the steamer Aki Maru, on his way to the Jamestown exhibition. The party will leave for Seattle in the morning, arriving at 3 P. M. tomorrow.

The party includes General Myoshi, commanding the fifth (Hiroshima) division, Major General Umezuwa of the Imperial Guards, Colonel M. Ohta, of artillery, Major Yoshida, Captain Maruta T. Saigo, Captain S. Tanaka, Paymaster Kobayashi, Lieutenant Colonel Nagayama, Surgeon Tamura and some petty officers without decoration other than the minute shoulder straps and stars. Several wore their decorations. A salute of 17 guns was fired from Work Point fortifications as the steamer neared the dock where a guard of honor presented arms. Lieutenant-Governor Dunsmuir and members of the local government and delegations of visiting Japanese from Seattle and other outlying places were on the wharf.

When the steamer docked the General and party were formally welcomed, addresses presented, and the band of the Fifth Regiment played the Japanese national anthem as the General and staff landed.

The Japanese colony assembled en masse and a number of Japanese children with flowers attracted the General, who spoke to the little ones and then moved to the carriage of the Lieutenant-Governor, in which he was driven to the government buildings where he was officially welcomed. Consul Hisamidzu of Seattle, who met

FORTS STRONGEST IN WORLD

MacArthur Says Those on Pacific Coast Surpass Any in the World.

SEATTLE, Wash., May 1.—Lieutenant-General Arthur MacArthur made his last official visit today, when he inspected Fort Lawton. A salute of 15 guns marked his arrival at the fort, where General MacArthur and wife, Colonel Winn and Major Hart were received by Colonel T. C. Woodbury and staff.

Fort's Worden and Plagler were inspected yesterday, a lack of time precluding a visit to Fort Casey. "The United States has the strongest coast defenses of any country," General MacArthur said on his return from his inspection. "On the Pacific they are not adequately manned, but they are well located, and the equipment is of the best and kept in good condition."

General MacArthur is quoted as saying that in his opinion universal peace is still far distant. He discussed the recent peace conferences more as a subject for curiosity than practical movements.

Cousin of the Mikado Coming.

VICTORIA, B. C., May 1.—Prince Fushimi, a distinguished Japanese statesman and soldier, a cousin of the Mikado, who is now on a special mission to London, will pass through Canada in the early part of June. The prince will arrive in Quebec on June 5 and sail from Vancouver for the Orient on June 16.

MEET FATE IN COAL MINE

Three Men Dead and Four Among the Missing.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., May 1.—Three men were killed, four severely burned and four others entombed and are probably dead as a result of a mine disaster at the Whipple mines, in the Leach Creek district this afternoon. The dead men, whose bodies have been recovered are: Hudson Bergess, motorman; Erastus Wiley, a sprinkler; Ira Kelley, a driver. The men missing and supposed to be dead are: Robert Armstrong, Raleigh Tucker, Charles Bergess and William Wilton, a negro.

The mine where the explosion occurred is a shaft 450 feet deep, belonging to the Dixon interests, who also owned the Stuart mine, where an explosion occurred last January that killed 86 men.

REDUCES NATIONAL GUARD

California Militiamen Not Up to the Proper Standard.

SACRAMENTO, Cal., May 1.—Sweeping orders were issued by Adjutant-General Lauck today whereby ten companies of the California National Guard are mustered out of the service for "having failed to meet the standard of efficiency" and the number of regiments is reduced from five to three, each of 12 companies.

DARROW REPLIES FOR HIS CLIENTS

Says Roosevelt Poisons Public Mind.

AGAINST FEDERATION CHIEFS

Asks That Passions Be Cooled Pending Trial.

PRISONERS WELL TREATED

Pettibone, Comedian of Trio, Keeps Up Spirits—They Boast of American Birth—Gooding Denies That Martial Law Is Needed.

BOISE, Idaho, May 1.—Clarence Darrow, of counsel for Haywood, Moyer and Pettibone, of the Western Federation of Miners, charged with complicity in the murder of ex-Governor Steunenberg, tonight issued a formal statement in behalf of the prisoners. It was anticipated that the statement would be a direct reply to President Roosevelt's "undesirable citizens" letter, but the statement is in reality a general one and the reference to the President goes to the former letters of the Executive. The statement follows: "We have been charged with killing ex-Governor Steunenberg by a dynamite bomb, our trial is to begin on the 9th of this month. The details of the assassination have been published broadcast throughout the civilized world for more than a year. During all this time the press of the country, and especially of that section of Idaho where we will be placed on trial, has bitterly denounced us and the Western Federation of Miners, to which we belong. The most powerful interests of the country are seeking to take our lives.

Kidnapped on Perjured Evidence.

We were not in Idaho for years before the crime was committed. Under the law we could not be extradited from Colorado. But, in spite of this, we were arrested on a perjured affidavit charging that we were in Idaho at the time of the commission of the crime and that we immediately fled from the state, and on this perjured affidavit, known to be false, the Governors of the States of Idaho and Colorado kidnaped us in the night time, refusing to interview with family, friends or counsel or a chance of appeal to the courts, and brought us on a special train a thousand miles from home and into a state and community systematically poisoned against us by newspapers and officials.

We have been confined in jail for 14 months against our protest and denied bail, while constantly demanding a trial. Every effort has been made to teach the farmers, business men

"Venom of President"

After all this time our case is about to be reached, and the President of the United States, in no way interested officially or otherwise, sends two letters broadcast over the country charging us with guilt and crime. These are republished in every paper in the land and especially in every paper of Idaho. The Governor of Colorado, a day or two later adds his words of spite to the venom of the President and says that we are not only guilty of the crime charged, but of many others, too.

While the President of the United States and the Governor of Colorado are sending out their statements to compass our death, the Judge of the country has brought a citizen before him for contempt on the charge that he tried to influence the mind of a prospective juror by saying that "the state administration was trying to railroad us." On the appearance of this man in court the Judge promptly told the state's attorney that he should have this obscure farmer indicted for felony because he tried to influence the mind of a prospective juror. The President knows how much greater weight will be given to his

Mrs. Yerkes-Mizner, Who Sues for Divorce From Wilson Mizner.



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words than those of an obscure private citizen. If we are about to be tried in court, every law-abiding citizen, however great or humble, should do anything in his power to cool the passions of men, rather than add fuel to the flames. If we are to be thrown to the mob, the officers should at least open our prison doors and give us some chance to defend our selves.

Prisoners a Merry Trio.

Barring the pallor inseparable from confinement, Haywood, Moyer and Pettibone show no mark of the long confinement, nor apparent trepidation at the close approach of the trial, so high in consequence to them. They laughed at the story told by one of their counsel when they received a correspondent of the Associated Press this afternoon, and the laughter went on until a discussion of the battle of capital and labor gave gravity to the general conversation.

Pettibone, whom they used to call "Happy Hooligan" down in Denver, is the fun-maker of the trio. He was marked with native wit, and a droll, quaint manner of expressing himself, and even when today he made sport of his own condition it was impossible to refrain from laughing with him. Pettibone has taken up byzography since his incarceration, and after the introductions today he showed several samples of his handiwork. He has gone to the comic supplements for many of his models, and with rare fidelity has reproduced "Happy Hooligan," "Maud" and the goat.

"Mr. Darrow tells me these will be worth lots more after I'm hung," he said, "but I'm not saving any of them." To the query: "How have you been treated?" the three answered: "All right." "We have absolutely no complaint," said Haywood.

"No men were ever treated better under like circumstances," said Moyer. "The Sheriff and his men have all been very fine with us. We have absolutely no complaint."

Federation Born in Cell.

"This cell of ours is really the home of the Western Federation of Miners," said Pettibone a little later. "For it was in here back in 1892, after the trouble up in the Cour d'Alenes, that the federation was first proposed and discussed. You will remember that they arrested a lot of our men in 1892 and held up until the Supreme Court decided, in 1893, that we were illegally in custody. While we lay in here in this cell we planned the federation. This is indeed a historic place for the old federation."

"You who have not been in the Cour d'Alenes and underground there know nothing of the frightful conditions that prevailed," went on Pettibone. "We were wretchedly housed and miserably fed. A company store supplied things at outrageous prices, after us, and we were paid in scrip. If there was ever anything coming to us when the company got through, I've seen a company surgeon refuse to go to the home of a dying miner. Now what are men to do? Is there anything too mean to do to men who grind down their laborers under such circumstances?"

"Down in Colorado," said Moyer, "it was the company store for everything, an enforced assessment for a company doctor in whose choice we had no voice; and pay in scrip."

Not Foreign-Born Agitators.

Pettibone produced a copy of his reply to a letter from a San Francisco woman which discussed the question of the extent to which the foreign element in labor had created disunion, in which he said:

"As to this question, I'd like to say that I am a descendant of John Pettibone"

PRIZE-RING SAGE FULL OF WISDOM

Sullivan's Views on Love and Marriage.

WOES OF MISMATED COUPLES

Life With Them a Constant Scrap, London Rules.

LOVE MEANS SACRIFICE

But Ex-Champion's Motto Is "Marry and Have Lots of Children." Feels Deep Sympathy for Mrs. Evelyn Thaw.

NEW YORK, May 1.—(Special.)—"No," said John L. Sullivan, decidedly, "I'm not sure on marriage. It's a good thing if you take it the right way. But I'm not going to get married again just now. And no widows for mine."

"The champion of champions" paused a moment, furrowed his grizzled brow and then added earnestly: "Money ain't everything. It can't buy everything. It can't buy brains; now, can it?"

Mismated Couples and Divorce.

"The trouble with marriage is this: Lots of people get married that ain't mated; then, of course, it's a scrap for life. London rules no rounds without a knockout, and fight to a finish if it takes all your life.

"Divorce makes it a limited go, with the Judge for a referee. I don't know that that's any better. I never got a divorce while my parents were alive, because they were Catholics and did not believe in it. I'm a Catholic myself. I don't know that that's any better."

Never Knocked Out by Cupid.

"And have you ever loved that way?" "No," disclaimed the big man, promptly. "I've never been in love. I've liked several women pretty well, but I've never felt what I call love for any one but my mother and sister. My time may come yet. That little fellow the poetry fellows call Cupid has knocked out better men than I am and he's only a bantam-weight at that. If a man is getting \$5 to \$18 a week and has \$1000 laid by, he should marry before he's 25. Marry and have lots of children; though, of course, that's with the Lord. Some women have three, some have none. My sister has eight living," he added, proudly.

After this indorsement of Mr. Roosevelt's dictum, John L. took up the subject of woman suffrage, on which, it appears, he has most decided views.

Rot About Woman Suffrage.

"This rot about woman suffrage has ruined lots of marriages," he declared. "It's all buncombe, and it's spoiled the happiness of many young girls. I'm not opposed to women's clubs," concluded the champion, as though realizing that he had struck the advancement of women too hard a blow. "But a woman shouldn't neglect her home for her clubs, and I believe in women working for a living if they want to work, even after they are married, provided they want to and have no children.

NEW THEATER IN PORTLAND

CALVIN HELIG SEEKING CAPITAL IN SOUTH.

Los Angeles Syndicate Ready to Back Enterprise and Manager Says Playhouse Is Assured.

LOS ANGELES, May 1.—(Special.)—Calvin Helig, president of the Northwestern Theatrical Association with headquarters in Portland, is in Los Angeles for the purpose of interesting a number of capitalists in the erection of a magnificent new theater in Portland.

Another purpose of his visit was to look over the ground with a view to possibly establishing a house of his own here. He said tonight that in the matter of the proposed Portland theater he has succeeded beyond his greatest expectations and that the new playhouse is practically assured. He would not say who are to back the venture, but it is known that a syndicate here has offered him strong financial backing.

