

FIRE WATER CAUSES INDIAN TRAGEDY

Government Agents Say Whiskey Sold to Redmen Led to Siletz Murders.

WHITE MEN IMPLICATED

Startling Evidence Is Gathered of Thriving Traffic With Reservation Indians—Grand Jury Is to Hear Testimony.

NEWPORT, Or., Aug. 4.—(Special.)—Startling evidence of illegal sale of bad whiskey to Indians around Newport by white men who for many months are said to have been conducting a thriving traffic almost without attempt at concealment, has been brought to light through the investigation by Government agents of the triple tragedy on the Siletz Reservation a week ago, when Bob Felix shot and killed John Spencer and Martha Metcalf in a drunken brawl, and then turned his weapon against himself.

Dr. Leo J. Frachtenberg, etymologist for the Smithsonian Institution, who is making the investigation for the Government, from sworn statements of many Indians has traced responsibility for the shooting to the door of bootleggers who gave liquor to the Indians. It is said a particularly strong case has been made out against Gus Olson, of Toledo, who, according to the testimony of many Indians on the reservation, sold them whiskey whenever they wanted it and could pay him the price.

Indian Buys Whiskey in Barn. According to testimony gathered by Dr. Frachtenberg, Olson sold three bottles of whiskey to John Spencer the night before he was killed by Felix. Between the time when he is alleged to have bought the whiskey and the murder, Spencer and his wife were drunk and quarrelsome, and it is now the theory of the United States agent that Felix was attacked by the others while sober, and had to shoot in self-defense. Olson has been in trouble several times for selling liquor illegally.

Sellers to Be Prosecuted. "We are tired of the intoxication among the Indians on the reservation and will see that the men against whom we have the evidence of selling liquor to them are brought up before the Circuit Court at its next term," said Indian Agent Ebert. "Dr. Frachtenberg has been very successful in obtaining substantial evidence. By punishing the present offenders we hope to make examples that others will not care to imitate."

Toledo Man Is Accused. "The bottle of whiskey which caused the Spencer trouble was sold to Spencer by Gus Olson in his barn at Toledo the night before the triple tragedy. Mrs. Spencer has furnished the facts and her statement is substantiated by the evidence of others," Mrs. Spencer's sworn statement to the Government officers is in part as follows:

"Friday night, July 23, my husband, John Spencer, and Joseph Gay came to the house. It was late at night. I had three bottles of whiskey. I asked him where he got them and he said, 'Mamma, I got them from Gus Olson, in Toledo, Or.' When he went to Toledo he took with him \$10. He brought back only \$5.

"One of the three bottles we drank out in the house. We took another bottle to Tipton's house and drank it there. The last bottle we drank Saturday morning. I know that these bottles came from Gus Olson because we lived in Toledo quite a while and because I know the brand of whiskey Gus Olson is selling. The bottle which I am showing you and which I myself marked with two pencil crosses my husband bought from Gus Olson in Toledo in my presence Friday two weeks ago. My husband paid \$1.50 for it. Gus Olson sold him this bottle right in his barn and I was there and saw the whole transaction."

Claybourne Arden, another Indian, swears he has at different times bought 25 bottles of whiskey from Olson. The liquor was of such vile make that even the Indian could not stand it and ceased buying, he says.

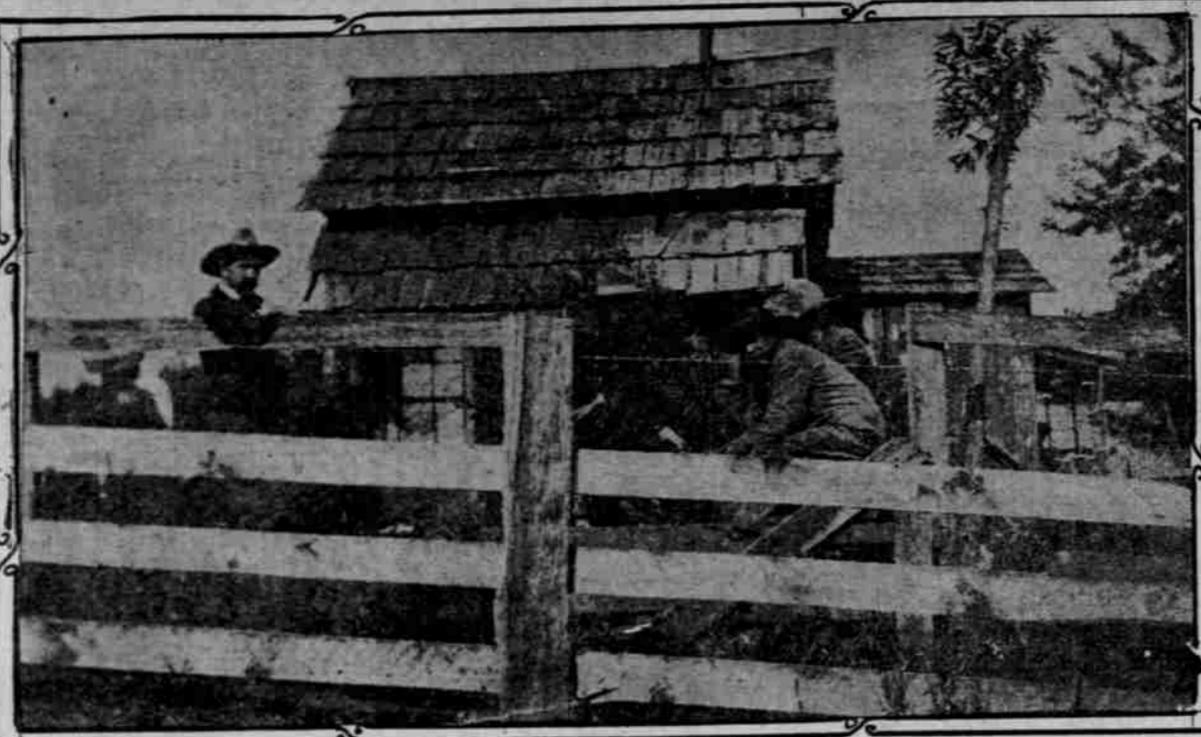
WESTERN MAN IS FAVORED

(Continued from First Page.) support a West Side candidate. Peter David, of Pierce, another candidate for re-election to the House, says he has about made up his mind to do the same thing.

Podexter supporters assert that most of the candidates for the Legislature have already signed the statutory pledge, but figures are not given. Apparently, however, there is no obstacle to such candidates withdrawing the pledge before the primaries if they see fit and some may do so.

So far as the nomination of the five justices of the Supreme Court was concerned, there was but a slight tincture of senatorial politics suggested. Burke adherents claim gains from Wilson in the Southwest as the result of the failure to nominate Mason Irwin, of Chesilts County. In the convention a majority of the delegates seemed to be Wilson supporters, while the sentiment throughout the state was undoubtedly

SCENE OF SILETZ INDIAN TRAGEDY, FATHER OF ONE VICTIM AND WIFE OF ANOTHER.



JOHN SPENCER'S HOME



JOSHUA LOUIE, FATHER OF MARTHA LOUIE METCALF, AND MRS. JOHN SPENCER, SHOWING GATE WHERE KILLING OCCURRED

favorable to the re-election of the five justices now on the bench, an attempt was made by Burke supporters to blame Wilson for the defeat of the southwest candidates, Irwin and A. E. Rice. In the only contest over judiciary nominations, Skagit County, the delegation of which was said to be controlled by Burke, voted solidly for Irwin.

Delegations in Compact. This was partly accomplished, however, by an agreement that the Rice and Irwin delegations would vote for George A. Joiner, of Skagit County, if his name should be presented to the convention as a candidate for Supreme Judge. The names of Judge Rice or Judge Joiner were not presented.

Representative Podexter is expected to issue a statement shortly concerning the work of the state convention. It is believed that he will assert that the convention was "packed" by the regulars, basing the statement on the fact that some of the delegations were named by the County Central Committee; that it was called simply to nominate Supreme Justices and could not authoritatively express the views of the party on the National issues or on the records of the members of the Washington delegation in Congress.

POOR AIM COSTS DEARLY

LIEUTENANT COURT-MARTIALED AT VANCOUVER BARRACKS. Neglect to Give Correct Angle in Target Practice Damages Steamer, and Endangers Lives.

VANCOUVER BARRACKS, Wash., Aug. 4.—(Special.)—For neglect to give the angle to the battery commander before a 12-inch mortar was fired, resulting in the projectile striking the United States steamer Major Evan Thomas, injuring it to a great extent and endangering the lives of all on board, First Lieutenant Rolfe P. Anderson was court-martialed and ordered confined to the post for two months and fined \$100.

Lieutenant Anderson, of the Coast Artillery Corps, had charge of Battery Alexander Schenck, 12-inch mortars, at Fort Casey, Wash., May 15. He failed to tell the battery commander the angle at which the mortar was laid before the first shot was fired at a floating target, which was being towed by the steamer Evan Thomas.

In consequence of this, the first shot was fired with an error of one degree, and the second one at an error of ten degrees, resulting in striking the steamer, damaging it and imperiling the lives of the men and officers on board. He also caused a second shot to be fired before he received a report of the first preliminary shot, and did not give any order assigning a target before beginning his practice.

The court-martial found Anderson guilty of all of the specifications, although he pleaded not guilty. He was ordered confined to the limits of the post where his company may be serving, for two months and fined \$100.

In passing on the sentence, General Marion P. Mason, commander of the Department of the Columbia, said: "The neglect of this officer to carry out the necessary precautions for safety in the conduct of target practice is inexcusable. Such an accident as occurred would have been impossible had due judgment and ordinary supervision been exercised. Misdirection of this kind is far from rare, and similar carelessness will not be so leniently dealt with."

HOME BURNS; 1 DEAD

Country Place Destroyed Near Dayton, Wash. Forests Are Burning.

MRS. ANNA CAHILL VICTIM

Portland Women Unable to Aid Hostesses, Who Is Made Living Torch When Lamp Is Overturned. Forests Are Burning.

DAYTON, Wash., Aug. 4.—(Special.)—Mrs. Anna Cahill, wife of W. R. Cahill, a prominent realty and insurance broker, was burned to death last night when fire destroyed the Cahill country home. As a result of the blaze volunteers are fighting forest fires in the neighborhood.

Mrs. Cahill was sewing and knocked a lamp from the machine. When she attempted to throw the lamp out of doors, her clothing caught fire and she ran from the house a living torch.

Miss Marie Aarnee and Mrs. Parry, of Portland, who were with her, could do nothing. A hired man drove to the Stern place, ten miles, and telephoned for Mr. Cahill.

OLD COUPLE BADLY BURNED

Residence at South Bend Suddenly Destroyed by Flames.

SOUTH BEND, Wash., Aug. 4.—(Special.)—The residence of John McDonnell was discovered by a neighbor to be on fire at 7 o'clock this morning, and Mr. McDonnell and his wife and son barely escaped with their lives.

Mrs. McDonnell rushed out through the flames in her night clothes and was dangerously burned. Mr. McDonnell and his son jumped from the second-story windows. The young man escaped unhurt, but his father was terribly burned and one rib was torn from the vertebra when he struck the ground. Both Mr. McDonnell and his wife are in a precarious condition.

The McDonnell residence was valued at \$2500, and had just been refurbished throughout at a cost of \$1500. Nothing whatever was saved. The house was insured for \$1500, and the furniture for \$500.

Only a short time before the fire was discovered Mrs. McDonnell had lighted the fire in the kitchen range, and had returned to bed, and it is thought that the fire originated from the range. The newly-completed \$10,000 home of George Cartier, Mayor of this city, stood 75 feet from the McDonnell residence, and was saved only by heroic efforts. The damage to it was about \$2500, fully covered by insurance. Had the Cartier residence burned, three other fine residences would inevitably have been destroyed.

PORT MOODY OIL REFINERY BURNS.

VANCOUVER, B. C., Aug. 4.—Fire today destroyed the British Columbia oil refinery at Port Moody, 18 miles from

Vancouver, causing loss of \$100,000. Edward Conger, the night engineer, suffered a fracture of the skull, and it is feared that he will die.

PASCO SUFFERS GREAT BLAZE

Flames Devour Livery Barn, Masons' and Eagles' Halls. PASCO, Wash., Aug. 4.—(Special.)—Fire was discovered at 1 o'clock today in the livery barn of the Washington Transfer & Storage Company, and had gained such headway that it was impossible for the fire department to get close enough to fight it.

The flames soon spread to the old schoolhouse, which had just been purchased by the Masons and moved to the new location. In 20 minutes the two buildings were totally destroyed. The blaze soon communicated itself to the other hall, two blocks away, but the building was saved.

MYRTLE CREEK HAS BIG FIRE

Two Houses and Church Burned. Tree Stays Flames.

MYRTLE CREEK, Or., Aug. 4.—(Special.)—A disastrous fire occurred in this city shortly after noon today from a defective fuse in the F. C. Buell residence and burned to the ground the above-named residence, the N. G. Buell residence and the Presbyterian Church.

There being no fire protection, a bucket was blowing and, had it not been for a large tree that stood directly in the path of the flames, the whole east end of town would have been destroyed, causing a loss of \$250,000, with about \$1500 insurance.

ASTORIA SUFFERS \$2500 BLAZE.

ASTORIA, Or., Aug. 4.—(Special.)—A fire that occurred today from spontaneous combustion in the Allen Wallpaper & Paint Company's workshop, caused a loss to the stock and building amounting to about \$2500.

BIDS FOR HIGHWAY SOUGHT

Arch Cape Creek Road Planned to South Line of Clatsop County.

ASTORIA, Or., Aug. 4.—(Special.)—The County Court today called for bids to be presented before August 15 on clearing and grading about two miles of road from Arch Cape Creek to the south line of the county to form a connection with the highway now being built by Tillamook County around the face of Necanicum Mountain.

Some time ago the court asked for bids to be opened at the August term on the construction of a bridge across Elk Creek to connect with the end of the road from Seaside. No bids were received and the court has decided to take no further action regarding the matter at the present time.

JAY BOWERMAN IS GUEST

"Home Folks" Give Acting Governor Housing Welcome.

CONDON, Or., Aug. 4.—(Special.)—Acting Governor Bowerman received an ovation last night on his return to his home town, his first visit here since receiving the assembly endorsement for the Republican nomination for Governor. Most of the business houses of the city closed for a part of the afternoon and the residents of the city turned out en masse to greet their distinguished fellow townsman.

After several rousing cheers and the singing of a number of campaign verses in which the name of Bowerman played an important part, Mr. Bowerman was escorted to his home.

Flags were displayed on the County Courthouse and a number of streamers were stretched across the principal business street. One of these bore the legend: "Eastern Oregon On the Map. Jay Bowerman for Governor. It Took Only One Ballot." Mr. Bowerman will return to Salem Friday morning to resume the duties of the state's acting chief executive.

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Men's single and double-breasted Black and Blue Suits, odds and ends, values to \$25.00

\$12.50

BEN SELLING

LEADING CLOTHIER

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