

# MURDER MYSTERY TAKES ODD TWIST

## Woman May Be at Bottom of Death of J. E. Roberts at Salem.

### FRIEND TELLS OF LETTERS

#### Slain Man Wrote to Unknown California Woman—Five Clues in Case Aid but Little in Unravelling Strange Crime.

SALEM, Or., Nov. 6.—(Staff Correspondence.)—Is there a woman at the bottom of Salem's latest murder case? G. W. Davis, closest friend of J. E. Roberts, who was killed and robbed here last Wednesday night, implies that there is, saying the slain man's only daughter, Mrs. U. S. Dotson, informed him her father wrote letters to and received replies from a woman resident of the Golden State.

"What's the woman's name and in what city does she live?" Mrs. Dotson was asked.

"I do not know anything about it," was her response.

Davis, a boyhood friend of Roberts in Stewart, Neb., appears to have been the only confidant of the aged realty dealer and his mention of a woman in the case may disclose the motive which prompted Roberts, at times, to get his mail secretly and may account for his habit of burning all his letters.

Letters Cannot Be Found.

"Thorough search of the old man's effects," said Sheriff Minto, "failed to reveal letters to him from any woman. I do not believe Roberts corresponded with any one in California except a man friend in Los Angeles. He loved his family dearly and it is not reasonable to suppose he carried on any correspondence that demanded by his business."

"He may have been negotiating a deal and the woman might have 'tipped' his reputed wealth to some one," was Davis' explanatory assertion after he had volunteered the information that Roberts, he had been told, received letters from a woman in the neighborhood.

Five Clues Unfathomed.

Including this latest view of the Capital murder puzzle five clues remain unfathomed.

No trace of the youths who, the day before the murder, tried to buy a cheap revolver of 28 caliber has been found. Two men in a machine immediately preceding the buggy occupied by Roberts at the time of the murder have not been identified.

A middle-aged man seen evidently attempting to board a train bound north at the Reform School just after the crime has disappeared as if swallowed by the earth.

Two of five men seized from a train at Albany the night of the crime escaped and thus far have eluded recapture.

Investigators Are Stalled.

With these five clues unsolved investigators say they are stalled and may not be able to make any progress until an administrator of the murder victim's estate is appointed. Then evidence may be brought to light showing the exact amount of money borne by Roberts when killed, a will may be found and renewed search for letters might shatter or confirm beliefs that the aged man was decoyed to his death.

In Salem business circles some predict that inventory of Roberts' cash, land and effects will show him to have been on "his last legs" financially. Others say his riches will not exceed \$10,000.

"A year ago," said G. W. Davis, "Mr. Roberts had almost \$10,000. He and two others contemplated leasing a place mine at Port Orford and he showed his bankbook, drawing our attention to the total. Later, though, he told me he had a large sum to a brother-in-law in the East and asked me to inform his sons of that transaction if anything happened to him. At the same time he told me that 'in case anything happened' I was to tell his sons that his papers could be found in the United States National Bank of Salem."

Warning Given on Last Day.

On the day of his death Roberts drove to the home of Davis here at 1110 Lee street, and displayed about \$300 in gold. Davis cautioned him that exhibition of his coin was unwise. Thereupon Roberts drew a revolver from his pocket and said:

"I am all right with 'Old Trusty' with me."

Then Roberts returned home, and, finding his daughter absent, waited until her return before starting on his fatal trip to Jefferson, where he told Davis he was to lend an unnamed sum on a mortgage after collecting \$1500

# HEAD OF CHEMICAL CONCERN CAUGHT

## Dr. Stewart, Wanted in Vancouver, Wash., Is Arrested in Vancouver, B. C.

### COMPANY NOW BANKRUPT

#### Brief Career in Washington Town Marked by Lavish Expenditures and by Bills Unpaid—Extradition Is Requested.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Nov. 6.—(Special.)—Dr. Francis Stewart, who organized the K. & S. Chemical Company in this city last year, with a capital stock of \$75,000, who three months ago left hastily and who is wanted here on charges of grand larceny and embezzlement of \$1600 from the firm, has been apprehended in Vancouver, B. C., according to a telegram received today from R. G. Chamberlain, Chief Constable, by Sheriff Sappington.

Dr. Stewart will resist extradition. Sheriff Sappington left tonight for Olympia, Wash., to secure extradition papers from Governor Hay. From Olympia he will go to Vancouver, B. C. When arrested in Vancouver, Dr. Stewart was endeavoring to organize another chemical company. Sheriff Sappington had been in communication with Chief Constable Chamberlain and had informed him that he suspected that Dr. Stewart would try to organize another company.

The K. & S. Chemical Company, which took commodious quarters in a large business house at Fourth and Main streets, here, apparently did a good business for a time. Demonstrators of the face lotions and toilet articles were sent into Washington, Oregon and Idaho. Dr. Stewart persuaded several Vancouver investors to furnish money to put the business on a paying basis, taking \$4000 in stock himself. For this he is said never to have paid. He drew a salary of \$250 a month, and his wife, "Madame Stewart," is said to have drawn \$150 a month.

He bought a house at Twentieth and Main streets, and furnished it lavishly. The paper on the walls, which was not paid for, cost \$2 a roll.

The company was forced into bankruptcy recently and E. M. Scanlon was appointed receiver. An auction sale of the stock of the insolvent firm will be held Thursday at the store and factory.

Mrs. Stewart has lived in Portland since the disappearance of her husband. She was arrested last Monday and placed in the Portland jail on the charge of carrying away a trunk containing \$150 worth of Indian laces and silks, the property of a Hindu. He had placed the trunk in the building for safe keeping and had left the city. When he returned and demanded his property, it was found that the trunk had been removed to Dr. Stewart's home. In the trunk, the Hindu received his laces and Madame Stewart was released from jail.

# HERRICK LEADS RIVALS

## AUTOIST LEADS IN RACE TO COLORADO RIVER.

### Al Berry, in Abbot-Detroit Car, Thrown and Hurt in Wild Dash Through Night.

EHRENBERG, Ariz., Nov. 6.—The Klissel Kar, driven by Harvey Herrick, outstripped all its 14 rivals to Ehrenberg on the Colorado River. The Franklin was second and the Apperson third. The running time of the Klissel Kar over the 250 miles of mountain and desert was 9 hours 32 minutes.

At a late hour tonight but nine of the 14 cars had arrived here.

All of the machines are held at the river tonight under control and will be started tomorrow morning at 5 o'clock on the second lap of the dash for Phoenix.

The finishing point is at the fair grounds at Phoenix, nearly 300 miles from here.

The order and running time of the arrival of the cars at the river tonight is as follows:

Klissel Kar, 9:32; Franklin, 10:05; Apperson, 10:45; Pope-Hartford, 11:14; Mercer, 11:50; Valle, 11:52; Ohio, 12:14; Durocar, 12:32; Parry 12:57; Rambler, 16:32; Abbot-Detroit, 18:20; Ford, 20:30.

At midnight the Ford, Knox and Maxwell cars had not arrived. It was learned that the Knox had lost four hours at Des Pines and had turned back.

The Maxwell stopped with carburettor trouble at Mica and was out of the race. The crew of the Abbot-Detroit was the only one to meet with serious mishap in the wild night ride. Four miles before reaching Beaumont, 150 miles from Los Angeles, the car skidded on a stretch of bad road at a turn and Al Berry, the mechanic, was thrown out, and, striking on his head, was rendered unconscious. Driver Max Speigel stopped his car, loaded in the injured man and took him on to Beaumont. After two hours in the hospital at Beaumont Berry recovered sufficiently to take a train for Phoenix. Speigel got another mechanic and went on.

# BRADY LEADS IN IDAHO

## Party Lines Dimmed by Injection of Liquor Issue.

BOISE, Idaho, Nov. 6.—The Idaho campaign will close Monday night. The general opinion is that Governor Brady, Republican, will be elected to succeed himself by about 25,000, or a reduction of his former majority of 2900.

His opponent, James H. Hawley, Democrat, is running on what is regarded as a "wet" ticket, while Brady is running on a "dry" ticket to the extent of a promise to the people to submit a constitutional amendment for statewide prohibition.

On account of this issue, party lines are somewhat dim.

# CITY IMPROVES RAPIDLY

## Dayton, Wash., Has Banner Year for Civic Betterments.

DAYTON, Wash., Nov. 6.—(Special.)—In point of municipal improvements this is to be a banner year for Dayton. Estimates of the Council place the cost of street improvements now under way and completed at from \$25,000 to \$30,000. These figures do not include \$2000 expended in improving the new city park and \$5000 for routine improvements.

This amount has been expended chiefly in regrading, laying of hard surface sidewalks, sewer extensions, drainage and park building. More than two miles of new cement sidewalks are being completed on First and Second streets. Work on the new city park will be completed next year.

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# Apple Crop Doubles Estimate.

## WHITE SALMON, Wash., Nov. 6.—(Special.)—Where several orchardists looked for one apple they have found two, so productive were their young trees. Superintendent Pyatt, of the Glavis ranches looked for about 2500 boxes of Spitz, Newtown, Gano and Ben Davis, but is marketing over 4000 boxes. McInnes & Bragg and Mr. King-stead, other large growers, report production exceeding estimate. As against one lone car load of apples last year out of the local station, three carloads have already gone, and nine more will be loaded. At Underwood, nine cars have been shipped so far.

# Tax Collections Large.

OREGON CITY, Nov. 6.—(Special.)—Taxes have come into the coffers of Clackamas County more freely this year than any time in the history of the county. The total amount of the assessment roll was \$425,396.48, and there has been turned over to the County Treasurer \$185,801.46, leaving \$149,595 delinquent. The Sheriff's office has more than \$7000 on hand, which will be given to the Treasurer in a few days, and the amount of the delinquent tax is only a few hundred dollars.

# Grants Pass Request Heard.

SALEM, Or., Nov. 6.—(Special.)—Representative Hawley has received word from the Postoffice Department that his request to establish a postal savings depository at Grants Pass will be considered by the department board of trustees as soon as possible.

# Thanksgiving Sale of Dining-Room Furniture

## —Begins today in the Furniture Store. Timely for those who contemplate furnishing or adding to the furnishings of the dining room.

### Prices lowered considerably on seven patterns in buffets, in the golden oak and fumed oak.

#### Seven patterns in china cabinets in the golden oak and fumed oak, Six patterns in dining tables in the golden oak and fumed oak, Several patterns in dining chairs.

# Convenient Payments

## Thanksgiving Sale of Dinner Sets, Cut Glass, Silverware

### in the Basement Store today and tomorrow.

#### —Three patterns in English semi-porcelain—sets of fifty pieces. —Three in Austrian china—100 pieces. —In French Limoges china—100 pieces.

# Free Wall Paper—This Unparalleled Offer of Last Week Continued for a Few Days More

## Although the stock of 2000 rolls has been greatly reduced, the variety remains unchanged.

### And we wish to impress upon you the fact that these are all high-class effects—for sleeping-rooms and living-rooms—worth from 50c to \$1.50 per 8-yard roll.

#### All We Are Asking Is Our Regular Charge for Hanging. This means that it will be done at a reasonable price—and done right.

#### Bring in your room measurements—height, breadth and length, and select your paper.

Portland's Leading Furniture and Complete Homefurnishing Store

# Tull & Gibbs, Inc.

EASY PAYMENT TERMS TO HOMEFURNISHERS

MORRISON AT SEVENTH

Raynier, Fownes and Dent Gloves—Revillon Freres' Furs—Kayser's Italian Silk Undergarments

## A Special Offering of Beautiful Gowns, Dresses and Fine 2-Piece and 3-Piece Tailored Suits Commences Today

IT'S THE PREMIER EVENT OF THE YEAR—ANNOUNCED IN YESTERDAY'S PAPERS

# The Special Demonstration

## By Mrs. L. C. Redding, Corset Expert, of New York City, as announced yesterday, will continue this week.

# Modart Corsets

"The Improved Front Laced" Are the standard of excellence by which other corsets are judged. The long, graceful, symmetrical lines appeal to women who know how to dress becomingly.

The best makers of gowns and tailored suits specify this Front Laced Corset, as it's beautiful habit back, round bust, and perfect hip lines insure smooth-fitting, correct style gowns and suits.

Whether you are of slender build or inclined to stoutness, there is a correct Modart model for your figure. Ask our special corsetiere about it.

The Modart supports the entire figure without compression and has many distinguishing features not found in any other corset.



Forty Fine Wilton Rugs 9 feet by 12 feet

—The most wonderful values in high-grade Wilton rugs ever offered.

\$60 AND \$85 WALS At \$37, \$50, \$44, \$50, \$49, and \$50.

## Thanksgiving Services Planned.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Nov. 6.—(Special.)—Union Thanksgiving services will be held this year in St. Paul's English Lutheran Church. This was decided by a recent meeting of the Evangelical ministers of Vancouver. The pastor, Rev. Walter I. Eck, of the Lutheran Church, is seriously ill in a hospital in Portland, so it is likely that he will not be able to attend the union services in his own church. Rev. J. T. Merrill, of the United Brethren Church, is to preach the sermon. A union meeting is also planned to be held in the Presbyterian Church, December 8, when Dr. Spencer S. Sulliger, superintendent of the Vancouver district of the Methodist Episcopal Church, will deliver a lecture on the World Missionary Conference, to which he was a delegate in Edinburgh last June, 14-23.

## Electricity to Operate Dairy.

WHITE SALMON, Wash., Nov. 6.—(Special.)—An electrically equipped dairy farm 30 miles from the nearest railway station is what the Trout Lake district up at the base of Mount Adams is boasting. D. Witt, who owns 200 acres in this section, and 30 head of cattle, is putting in a plant to operate his cream separator, light the barns and run a milking machine. All his other buildings will be lighted by the same power.

## John Ditchburn

Republican Nominee for

# CIRCUIT JUDGE

DEPARTMENT NO. 5.

## No. 58 on Ballot

Came to Oregon a sailor; member of Volunteer Life Boat Crew at Ft. Canby; assisted in building Tillamook Rock lighthouse; fisherman and longshoreman; worked for Vincent Cook and Louis Nicolai, and many others; admitted to practice law in the year 1888; practices in all the courts of the States of Oregon and Washington, and in the United States courts.

Stands judicially for Speedy Trials, Prompt Decisions, Equal Rights of All before the Court.

Stands Politically for Direct Primary, Statement No. 1, Complete Elimination of Boss Rule from Politics, Opposed to Assemblies.

(PAID ADVERTISEMENT.)

## What the Home Rule Bill (328) Really Is

It gives cities and towns the right to have saloons or no saloons. It gives the people who live in cities the right to vote on and decide this question themselves. It puts the control of the liquor traffic into the hands of the voters of each precinct, so that every residential district in a city or town is protected. It means real local option. All state criminal laws are maintained. Under it the farmer has the same protection he now enjoys. It is a law fitted to local conditions as they actually exist in every section of the state. It gives absolute control of the liquor traffic, particularly in towns and cities, where it is most needed. It will prevent the county from wiping out the city vote on city measures. It is a law which makes prohibition possible where wanted, and impossible where not wanted. It means regulation which regulates.

### It Means that the City Council Can NOT License a Saloon in a District that Votes DRY

HERE IS ATTORNEY-GENERAL CRAWFORD'S OPINION:

"This amendment would not exempt cities or towns from the operation of the constitution and criminal laws of Oregon. It gives the people of the municipality the right to vote local option within the municipality at any time they please, and when the legal voters of the incorporation shall vote local option, then the power of the City Council to grant licenses is suspended during the time that prohibition is in force within the city."

(Signed) "A. M. CRAWFORD, Attorney-General for Oregon."

Paid Advertisement.

# THE NORTH COAST LIMITED

Leaves Portland 7 P. M.

Via "The North Bank Road" (S. P. & S. Ry.) and Northern Pacific.

NO CHANGE NO DISCOMFORT NO DELAY

Local travel and local stops eliminated in the interest of time and comfort of through passengers.

Standard Sleeping Cars; Observation-Library-Buffer Car Most Inviting Dining Car

Carries Standard Sleeping Car passengers for Spokane, Missoula, Butte, Bozeman, Billings, Miles City, Fargo, Eastern Terminals and Bayoud.

THE THROUGH SERVICE

OF SOLID COMFORT

A CHRISTMAS EXCURSION TO EUROPEAN POINTS

Via White Star Line from New York City and Portland, Me. Through Tourist Sleeping Cars From Coast to Coast. Starts November 26. No change of cars.

# NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY

Ticket Office—255 Morrison Street, Portland.

A. D. Charlton, Asst. Gen. Pass. Agent, Portland, Or.

PHOTOGRAPH OF REAL ESTATE DEALER MURDERED AND ROBBED AT SALEM, HIS WIFE, SIX SONS AND DAUGHTER.



READING FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, UPPER ROW—FRANK ROBERTS, ERNEST ROBERTS, MRS. U. S. DOTSON, HARRY ROBERTS. LOWER ROW—CLARENCE ROBERTS THE LATE MRS. J. E. ROBERTS, J. E. ROBERTS, MAN KILLED, AND WILLIAM ROBERTS.

## Who Are Kohler & Chase?

SEE PAGE 6.