Prisoner's Wife Goes on Stand and Tells Story That Clears Him.

TRIAL IS ONE OF SHORTEST

Sulalaw Country in Western Lane County Is Scene of Tragedy, Husband Shoots Man He Meets Running From His Home.

EUGENE, Or., Dec. 5.—(Special.)—
After one of the shertest murder trials in this county, the pury this evening after one hour, returned a varilet of not guilty in the case of John E. Johnson, accused of killing E. S. Prindel in the Giuslaw country several months ago.

The principal feature of today's trial was the testimony of Mrs. Johnson, whose story, though straight-forward, was calculated to favor her husband. Only once during the ordeal did she lose har composure. Her remarks were directed to the jury. The accused appeared dejected and at times pervous, but his facial expression remained the same throughout the trial.

Mrs. Johnson's story in part was:

"I was at home all day funday, except when I visited one of the neighbors in the afternoon. I had returned and after having prepared support, was standing upon the porch with Benny (her small son). About 3 o'clock Peindel came along and stopped and talked at the gate. He talked for a long while.

Visitor Asks for Water.

Visitor Asks for Water.

"Then he saked for a drink of water and I asked him into the house. Supper was ready, because I was waiting for my husband. I gave Benny his supper, undressed him and put him to bed. Mr. Prindel was still there when I did that He stayed and we talked. He asked me if my husband was coming home. I told him that I expected him that night. My husband had been at the logging camp."

After some interruptions, the Prose-cuting Attorney asked her what Mr Prindel talked about.

Prindel talked about.

"He was telling me about the Sunday school and the revival meetings. You know he was superintendent in the Sunday school. He said he was going away in a few days. After I had put my son to bed, we talked for a little while and I mentioned that it was getting late. He said that he thought so, too."

Then the woman fold how he tried to carry her bedfly upstairs. She con-

to scare aim. Then he will be assessment for Wallowa County.

"Oh. Rose, I've shot him." Then I went outside and we saw that Prindel was dead. My husband exclaimed: 'Oh. Total assessment of Jackson County, \$23,26,645.

Not a great deal more time will be my God! I have killed him." He ran toward the house and grabbed the gun, saying: "Twe killed him and now I'm going

sun away. Then he telephoned to the neighbors. Pretty soon the people came."

Mrs. Johnson was the last witness and the arguments were short.

Johnson was cleared by the Coroner's jury and arrested later at the instance of the grand jury. E. R. Bryson, District Attorney, and his deputy, G. F. Skipworth, conducted the prosecution and A. C. Woodcock and L. Billyeu were attorneys for the defense. attorneys for the defense.

SOLDIERS SENT TO PRISON

Severe Sentences Imposed for Stealing and Desertion.

eig months. Harry J. Miner stone a pair of garrison shoes and was dishonorably discharged. George Currington deserted at Fort Columbia, Wash., July Z, and was semtenced to two years. Three years in prison is Edward May's penalty for losing nearly 50 worth of clothing and deserting. Atthough hollin Hinkley surrendered himself after nine months in desertion, he was sentenced for three years. For going to Spokane without permission and threatening to injure another private, Glen Lee was sentenced for two years.

FRATS FROWN ON PLEDGES Faculty of University and Many Leading Societies Agree.

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON, Seattle. Dec. 5.—Upon recommendation from the faculty there will be no more fraternity piedging of high school stu-dents who have not yet graduated from their schools. The action was previously prompted by m. my leading 'frats' themcompted by many leading trais them-sives, believing that co-operation should gist between the university and the

In recent years large numbers of students have been pledged prior to gradua-tion. This, asserts the faculty, hinders the work of high school students and

er than the usual freshmen.
High solubol superintendents have been ghting the pludges for several years ad have been successful through the co-peration of the fraterallies.

HOPE SLIGHT FOR CORBIN Hunter Believed to Have Perished

in Mountain Snows. BOISE, Idaho, Dec. 9.-Unless B. E. Corbin, the lost Boise banker, has found | \$45,000.

an isolated cabin in the Targhee Na-tienal Forest that spreads over the Te-ton Monntains, the unfortunate eik huni-er is engulfed in heavy snows in an al-most boundless country and has per-ished. He disappeared two weeks ago last Saturday, while on the trail of big game, and since then no word or news of any character has been received from him.

of any character has been received from him.

When Harry Lamberton, the companton of Corbin when the latter was lost, returned to Belse a few days ago after a 10 days' search that ended in his giving up hope of finding Corbin alive, there were 30 inches of mow on the ground, and it was drifting badly. He declared that it was almost impossible to take the horses out. Lee followed the broken trail of the Lamberton party as far as possible towards Rea's Pass, which borders on the Yellowstone National Park. The recent snows and wind had, however, obliterated most of the trail, so that it had to be broken a second time. This is probably the most difficult part of the search.

The man hunt is not entirely abandoned by the soldiers stationed in the park. On the contrary, they are busily engaged running the boundary lines in the hopes of running across a deserted cabin into which Corbin might have taken refuge. This, it is believed, is the only hope for Corbin. If he could have made one of the cabins in which the troops store food it would have been an easy matter to have survived up to the present time, as the supplies he would find there would be ample to keep him. The Scoretary of War has directed that the soldlers keep up the search until either Corbin is heard from or his body is found.

TAXABLE VALUATION OF ORE-GON INCREASED \$130,000,000.

Total Is About \$825,000,000, Multnomah County's Report Showing \$277,029,995.

SALEM. Or. Dec. 2-(Special.)—According to the nearest estimate that may now be made with several of the smaller public service corporations missing from the assessment reports received so far at the effices of the State Tax Commission, the total secessed taxable valuation of Oregon for the will be \$25,000,000, an increase of more than \$130,000,000 over the assessed valuation of 1800, which was \$854,17,511.90. The year fust closed is the first in which the Tax Commission has assessed property, the law creating the commission being passed in 1903. SALEM. Or., Dec. 3.-(Special.)-Ac-

Aside from assessed valuation of public pervice corporations which came under jurisdiction of the Commission, the total assessed valuations in 32 countles are

as follows:
Tilisble land. \$184.594.215; non-tillable land. \$101.388,412.96; improvements on deeded and patented lands, \$17.474.594; town and city lots, \$40.667.582; improvements and city lots, \$40.667.582; improvements and city lots. in a few days. After I had put my son to bed, we talked for a little while and I mentioned that it was getting late. He said that he thought so, too."

Then the woman fold how he tried to carry her bedily upstairs. She continued:

Husband Shoots to Scare.

"Partly through force he got me half way upstairs. I pleaded and begged with him. I don't know how long it was until the gate squesked. He ran and a until the gate squesked he commission will properly assessed by County Assessors. 747.521,404.44.

Commissioner Charles Galloway estimates the Commission will assess \$120,-

Total assessment for Wallowa County.

Not a great deal more time will be required to complete assessments on cor-porations, and the work of reviewing and equalization will begin.

Roseburg District Aroused by Report Lane Building Is to Give Place to High School.

ROSEBURG, Or., Dec. 9.—(Special.)-ROSEBURG, Or., Dec. 9.—(Special.)—
As the result of a newspaper story
given out by members of the Roseburg
School Board yesterday to the effect
that the board had practically decided
to tear down the Lane School building
te make room for the new Central High
School structure a factional fight has
been kindled among the taxpayers of
the district.

Those opposed to tearing down the

VANCOUVER BARRACKS. Wash.

Dec. 2.—(Special.)—Three soldiers having charge of a shipment of horses from Fort Yellowstone, Wyo., stole five sacks of oats intended for feed fer the animals and sold them, packeting the proceeds. The Government caught them and now the three soldiers will have to serve a term of one year each on Alcatran island. Desides being discharged dishonorably from the Army. The soldiers found guilty of this crime are: Charles J. Kinchard. Those opposed to tearing down the Lane School building argue that such procedure will result in throwing away \$25,000 and that little would be accomplished toward relieving the congested conditions of the schools. They also say the Lane School should be utilized as a graded institution, and that the central High School building argue that such procedure will result in throwing away \$25,000 and that little would be accomplished toward relieving the congested conditions of the schools. They also say the Lane School should be situated in another section of the central High School should be situated in another section of the central High School should be situated in another section of the central High School should be situated in another section of the central High School should be situated in another section of the central High School should be situated in another section of the central High School should be situated in another section of the central High School should be situated in another section of the central High School should be situated in another section of the central High School should be situated in another section of the central High School should be situated in another section of the central High School should be situated in another section of the central High School should be situated in another section of the central High School should be situated in another section of the central High School should be sent sindled among the taxpayers of the district.

Those opposed to tearing the congested conditions of the school should be utilized in another Central High School should be situated in another section of the city.

Those favoring the destruction of the Lane School assert that the structure has outgrown its usefulness and that it should be discarded to make room for a larger and more medern building. They also declare that the site occupied by the Lane School is centrally located, and strenuously oppose the arguments of taxpayers who desire the structure erected in the suburbs.

So bitter is the feeling that those opposed to the destruction of the Lane building have threatened to file injunction proceedings in the event the board acts contrary to their wishes.

PARDON HEARING PUT OFF

Petition of J. Thorburn Ross to Be Presented January 3.

SALEM, Or, Dec. 2.—(Special.)—By a change in the date of hearing of J. Thorburn Ross' petition for pardon from December 21 to January 3, more time is given the attorneys for the former Portland banker to arrange their case. So and banker to arrange their case. So far as known the guestion will come up before Acting Governor Bowerman and it is understood that a large delegation of Portland business men will appear and make an appeal in the interest of Ross. According to information here, virtualization of the turns in the Ross case have

According to information here, virtually all of the Jurors in the Ross case have indicated their intention of asking leniency and it is understood have allowed their names to go on the petition. In event that the petition receives favorable consideration by the Governor it is probable that motion to dismiss the appeal, now pending in the United States Supreme Court, will follow.

Grants Pass Has Many Children.

GRANTS PASS, Or., Dec. 9.—(Special.)—The achool census just completed shows 1215 eligible persons of school age residing within the corporate limits. This is a decided increase over last year's returns, and indicates substantial growth, which has called for a new high school that will cost about 155 sec.

SINGLE TAXERS TO

Home From New York Conference, Mr. U'Ren Says Advocates Are Pleased.

ISSUE WILL COME IN 1912

People of Oregon Will Be Expected to Pay Greater Proportion of Cost of Own "Education, but Fels Will Help.

OREGON CITY, Or., Dec. 2.—(Special.)—Advocates of the single-tax method of raising revenue have decided to go straight to the people of Oregon in 1912 with a bill to provide for the collection of state and local revenue from ground rent values, according to W. S. U'Ron, who returned this wack from a trip of three weeks to the East, where he attended a meeting of the Feis Fund Commission in New York. "The members of the commission," said Mr. U'Ren, "expressed themselves as highly satisfied with the results attained, though at that time it was supposed that the county home rule amendment had been lost in Oregon. I made a report to the commission on what had been done in this state toward the adoption of single tax.

"Educational Campaign" Begun.

"Educational Campaign" Begun.

"Educational Campaign" Begun.

The commission decided to assist in an educational campaign in Oregon for a bill to provide for the collection of state and local revenue from ground rent values of land, commonly known as single-tax. The effort will be to show all classes of people in Oregon that it will be to the advantage of the people to remove all taxes from useful business and labor of every kind. Single-taxers do not regard land speculation as useful business.

"The system has already been adopted by the city of Vancouver, B. C., for local taxes, and has resulted in the city's growing in capital and property. It is improving more rapidly than ever before.

The Fels Commission expects that the people of Oregon will pay the greater part of the expense of the cam-paign of education for the next two years, but the commission will assist years, but the commission will assist in a moderate way, so far as the expenses are concerned. The commission may pay one-quarter, or even a little more of the expense, but does not expect to pay a large proportion. The advisory board in Oregon, composed of C. E. S. Wood, W. S. U'Ren, George M. Orten, H. W. Stone, H. J. Parkison, C. H. Chapman and E. S. J. McAliister, will have charge of the Oregon campaign, so far as the commission's efforts are concerned. There will be local organizations that will take an active part in the different counties of the state.

Fels Is Coming West.

Fels Is Coming West.

The meeting of the Fels Commis-The meeting of the Fels Commis-zion was very interesting. The mem-bers of the commission are Daniel Kiefer, of Cincinnati, president; Jack-son H. Ralston, of Washington. Beiton Hall and Fred C. Howe, of New York; Tom L. Johnson, of Cleveland, and Lincoln Staffen. Lincoln Steffens.

Lincoln Staffena. "I met Mr. Fels in Philadelphia. He is the founder of the Fels Fund and contributes \$25,000 annually toward the spread of single-tax propagands in the United States. The single-taxers have not yet matched his money. Mr. Fels is doing the same thing in England, and is contributing to similar efforts in Denmark, France, Germany and the British Colonies.

British Colonies.

"Joseph Fels and Mr. Kiefer expect to be on the Pacific Coast the last of January, and I hope to have them spend two or three days among the commercial and industrial organisations in Oregon.

BIG DAM TO BE REPAIRED Large Pumps Will Fill Irrigating

Ditches Near Grants Pass.

GRANTS PASS, Or., Dec. 9.—(Special.)—In the neighborhood of \$49.000 will be spent within the next few weeks to put the Golden Drift Dam, three miles east, in good condition for the irrigating season. Included in the repairs will be much concrete work and heavy machinery for numbing to the heavy machinery for pumping to the

heavy machinery for pumping to the high land ditches.

Under the new system these large pumps will be placed on each side of the river and will fill a string of ditches 12 to 15 miles long. Work will be resumed soon upon the large gravity ditch which will be used for all bettom land. The company also will generate 4000 horsepower for electrical purposes.

Salem and \$7000 for Woodburn.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 9.—(Special.)— Grant of \$3990 to Salem and \$7000 to

Armory.

Woodburn must raise \$7000 and the state \$14,000 for the Woodburn Armory, the Salem building to cost \$35,000 and the Woodburn building \$28,000. Money from the state is as-

STABLE-OWNER IS SUICIDE Eli Barnum, Sr., Suddenly Ends Life at Lakeview Home.

LAREVIEW. Or. Dec. 9.—The suicide here pesterday afternoon of Eli Barnum. Sr., member of the firm of Barnum & Rehart, proprietors of the Mammoth stable, the largest establishment of its kind in Oregon, caused much surprise among those who have known Barnum for many years. The deed was dene at the family home, Barnum firing a shot into his heart from a heavy revolver. Temporary insantity, caused by brooding over family matters, is given as the cause. He leaves a wife, who is a stepdaughter of Charles Behart, a prominent business man, and three small children.

OLD SLEUTH' STILL ACTIVE Mysterious and Murderous Cougar of Blue Hills Eludes Hunters.

DATTON, Wash., Dec. 3.—(Special.)— Through publicity. "Old Signify" the

murderous and mysterious cougar of the Blue Mountains, may meet his Waterloo. In the last few days numer-ous communications have been re-ceived here from hunters living in all parts of the Northwest asking for par-ticulars regarding the \$500 bounty of-fered for him.

Trappers and hunters of Oregon. Washington and Idaho are interested in the enture.

That dogs, on which many hunters rely, would be practically useless has been shown repeatedly, for the lion is too cunning to allow "mere dog" to

bother him.

Although the Blue Mountains contain some of the most skillful hunters in the West, all have falled to get a shet at the big animal, and only one man has seen him, although each night he commits some depredation—siays a horse, a cow or a hog. The animal covers a trail 29 miles long, yet one night he may slay a sheep at one end and the next night a horse at the other. He works mysteriously and effectively. bother him.

YET OFFICIALS DO NOT THINK WOMAN WAS MURDERED.

Discrepancy in Story of Self-Confessed Slayer Leads Them to Believe She Was Hit by Train.

word was received from Roseburg today that Mrs. Ellis was well known in Douglas County, where she lived for several years. For two years she conducted a restaurant at Glendale, leaving there ten months ago to accept employment as cook in a lumber camp, near Westfork. She is supposed to have left that place about a month ago. She is the wife of E. S. Ellis, at present residing in California, and is also survived by a daughter. daughter.

ROAD SEEKS WIDER SCOPE

Canadian Line Makes Plans to Invade Alaska Mining Territory.

VANCOUVER, B. C., Dec. 2.—The British Columbia & Alaska Railway Company, incorporated at the last ses-sion of the British Columbia Legisla-ture, is applying at Ottawa for a Dominion charter conferring general newers.

Dominion inarter contents a powers.

The company is sacking authority to build a railway from Lytton up the Fraser River to Fort George, and thence through the northern portion of the Province to Alaska.

The company intimates that the American section of the read will ultimately prove a trans-Alaskan line, with branches to the various mining districts.

Tacoma Postmaster Dead.

Tacoma Postmaster Dead.

TACOMA. Wash., Dec. 9.—Henry L. Votaw. postmaster of Tacoma, died teday after an illness of geyeral months, ased \$1 years. He came from lowa 23 years ago, engaging in the real estate business. His appointment as postmaster in February, 1805, came about through the efforts of the late Representative Cushman. He was a prominent member of the Masonic order and was a Knight Templar. He is survived by his widow, three daughters and two sons, also by his parents, two sisters and two brothers. sisters and two brothers.

Ambulance Used as Dead Wagon.

Justice Court Summons Those Prominent in Society and Suffrage Cause.

DEFENSE OFFERS PROTEST

Suit Is One for Damages Sustained in Runaway and Will Decide Status of Women as Jurors. Appeal Will Be Taken.

OLYMPIA, Wash., Dec. 2 .- (Special.)-Six prominent women of Olympia, all leaders in the suffrage movement, have been summoned by Milton Giles, Justice of the Peace, to serve as jurors in the case of A. Koch, who is suing to collect 10.05 damages from Fouls & Canfield, Employes of the contractors set off a blast while improving a street, and frightened a team belonging to the plain-

MEDFORD, Or., Dec. 3.—(Special.)—
Although a blood-stained hammer was found today near the railroad track a mile from here, where the body of Mrs. Beile Ellis was found Wednesday morning, exactly as E. L. Brooks, of Didaburg, Canada, described it when he voluntarily confessed last night to murdering the woman, local authorities think that Brooks is demented and that Mrs. Ellis was killed by a train. This theory was centained in a verdict by the Coroner's jury and no one doubted it until Brooks announced to the police that he killed Mrs. Ellis when she refused to give him \$8 conts. There is one point in Brooks' story which does not agree with facts. He says he was put off a freight train and was walking to Medferd along the asked her for money and when she refused him, he declares, he hit herover the head with a hammer he carried in his pocket, then robbed her cotoning. He says the was put off a freight train and was walking to Medferd along the asked her for money and when she refused him, he declares, he hit herover the head with a hammer he carried in his pocket, then robbed her cotoning. He says this happened Wednesday morning.

Brooks says that after he hit the woman he threw the hammer away. He has been in lail ever since last night, but this evening a hammer, covered with blood, was found in the spothe described. This discovery adds mystery to the case.

Brooks seems on the verge of a collapse and says he is glad he is locked up.

Word was received from Roseburg today that Mrs. Ellis was well known in Douglas County, where she lived for several years. For two years she conducted a restaurant at Gleudale, leaving there ten months ago to accept employment as cook in a lumber camp, near the last is the last wine drawn are elected and trightened a team helonging to the plain. The summer days in the suffragists of the contractory as some insist, and frightened a team helonging to the plain. The summer say man Especial and the suffragists;

payers either d'rectly or on co property.

TIMBER FIRM COMPLAINS

C. A. Smith Company Objects to Increase in Tax Assessment.

ROSEBURG, Or., Dec. 3.—(Special.)—
Alleging that the assessment on its timber lands is unjust, the C. A. Smith
Timber Gempany has filed an appeal in
the Circuit Court from the decision of
the Douglas County Board of Equalization, which Board denied a petition for
a reduction in the 1910 assessment.
The company owns 35,996 acres of timber land in Douglas County, upon which
the valuations total \$488,418. The assessment levied on the land for the year
1916 is \$1.85 higher than the assessment
in 1909, and upon this increase the company bases its objections.
In its appeal the timber company says:
"By reason of fires and threatened fires
and by reason of the distruct in the
minds of the public, created by disastrous fires the past year, the value of
timber lands has, if anything, decreased."

Dayton Marshal May Lose Place.

DAYTON, Wash., Dec. S .- (Special.) DAYTON, Wash., Dec. 5.—(Special.)
—An investigation committee may have
to be used here to decide whether
George B. Dorr. Marshal, shall be removed from office by Mayor-elect J.
A. Muirhead. Strong opposition to the
present chief has developed. Muirhead's office today was crowded with
taxpayers clamoring for his decision.
They got no satisfaction. Opponents
of Dorr say he has neglected his duties
and that he has held the office long
enough anyway. enough anyway.

Hood River Bowlers Active.

HOOD RIVER, Gr., Dec. 9.—(Special.)

—There is considerable interest in bowling this year, and already teams OLYMPIA, Wash., Dec. 2.—(Special.)

—Protests have been filed with the City Council sgainst the action of an Olympia livery stable in renting out the city ambulance to be used by a local undertaking establishment as a "dead wagen." Dr. R. Kincaid, the city health officer, has filed the complaint.

HOOD RIVER, Gr., Dec. 9.—(Special.)

—There is considerable interest in bowling this year, and already teams of the valley. Yesterday Captain H. DeWitt's team defeated Captain Fred Tate's team, representing the country, by the decisive score of 2353 to 2284.

ARMORY MONEY GRANTED Pleasant, Refreshing, Beneficial,

Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna appeals to the cultured Woodburn was made by the County Court today for new armories. The court was waited on by a big delegation and received a petition representing more than \$18,000,000 of property. It is conditioned on the appropriation by the city of Salem of \$9000 and the state \$18,000 in addition for the Salem tions, as it is wholly free from tions, as it is wholly free from every objectionable quality or substance. In its production a pleasant and refreshing syrup of the figs of California is united with the laxative and carminative properties of certain plants known to act most beneficially, on the human system, when its gentle cleansing is desired. To get its beneficial effects, always buy the genuine, for sale by all reputable druggists; one size only, price fifty cents a bottle. The name of the company - California Fig Syrup Co.-is always plainly printed upon the front of every package of the genuine.



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Extra Special Prices for the Opening of the Madison-Street Bridge.

We will sell to our old friends and customers ALL OUR CALIFORNIA WINES

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45c Per Gallon and Up Whiskies, per gallon.......\$2.00 to \$10.00

Monogram Whisky, regular \$2.00, bottled at distillery, sp'l today and next week, full qts., only \$1.50

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IT MAKES WEAK WOMEN STRONG IT MAKES SICK WOMEN WELL.

No woman's appeal was ever misdirected or her confidence misplaced when she wrote for advice, to the World's Dispensary Medical Association, Dr. R. V. Pierce, President, Buffalo, N. Y.

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets induce mild natural bows! movement once a day.



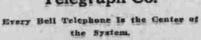
WHEN a man feels the necessity of being in two places at the same time he goes to the nearest telephone and sends his voice.

It is not exactly the same thing, but when a man talks hundreds of miles in opposite directions from the same Bell Telephone, it is about as good.

In the daily use of the telephone a man travels all over town by wire in a few minutes. It is just as easy to travel all over the state and other states by means of the Universal Long Distance Service of the Bell System.



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