

### E. W. MUTCH SLAIN; SALMON MAN HELD

#### Robbery Not Motive of Killing of Well-to-Do East Side Shopkeeper.

### BULLET PIERCES HEART

#### Spot Where Body Was Discovered Visited by Policeman Short Time Before Death—Victim Owner of Much Property.

Edison W. Mutch, aged 55 years, former proprietor of a cigar store at 254 East Burnside street and well-to-do, was found murdered at 12:45 this morning in a doorway at the rear of the Merchants' Exchange saloon, 9 First street, near Ankeny. He had been shot through the heart. The body, still warm, was found by Patrolman Converse and Special Officer Seaburg on their regular rounds. Seaburg had visited the same spot at 12 o'clock and said the body was not there then.

Shortly after the murder had been discovered, Ernest Ottinger, proprietor of the Merchants' Exchange saloon, was arrested under a charge of which had been recently discharged, says the police.

Officer Kienlen went to the saloon a few minutes after the murder and took away a man found Ottinger, who had been wiping up the bar, standing with his arms on the bar and his head on his arms. Kienlen asked: "What's that matter, old man?" "I'm sorry," replied Ottinger. "Sorry for what? It was an accident," said Kienlen.

Ottinger looked up and, grinning, answered: "Was it?"

He stated Patrolman Kienlen at the police station this morning.

A young man known in the Merchants' Exchange saloon as Earl was drinking with Mutch in the resort about 9 o'clock. Shortly thereafter Mutch and his companion left together by the front door. Neither was seen in the place again by Ernest Ottinger, proprietor of the saloon, who was on watch. Mutch was somewhat under the influence of liquor.

Robbery Not Motive. Mutch's movements after he left the saloon have not yet been learned. Early this morning the police had seen no one who had been seen alive after 9 o'clock.

Robbery was evidently not the motive for the killing as Mutch's heavy gold watch, worth perhaps \$100, was in the pocket of his trousers. In his trousers pockets were \$2 or \$4 in small change. No motive for the murder was apparent.

Converse and Seaburg found Mutch's body lying in the rear doorway of the saloon. The rear door of Ottinger's place leads into a sort of paved court, or blind alley. This door was locked at 7 o'clock last night, as is customary, and was not opened thereafter, said Ottinger.

Death Thought Instantaneous. The body had evidently been dragged to the spot, as the clothing was covered with dirt. As Mutch was a large, heavy man and not easy to drag around, it is the belief of the police that he was murdered not far from the saloon.

The bullet, evidently from a revolver of 33 caliber, had pierced the heart and death must have been instantaneous. Life was exact when the policemen came upon the body, but it was seen that Mutch had not been long dead. The ball went through the victim's chest, vest and shirt, but there was no bullet hole in the heavy overcoat the man wore. The fatal shot had been fired at close range.

Proprietor Ottinger, of the Merchants' Exchange saloon, he had known Mutch a long time. He said he came originally from Prince Edward Island. For several years he was a longshoreman, but in recent years had become quite prosperous. Ottinger said Mutch was the owner of valuable property on Union avenue, East Burnside street and other places on the East Side and was a stockholder in the H. O. Peck Auto Wheel Company. He was married and lived at 848 East Hoyt street.

Ottinger said Mutch came into the saloon about 8 o'clock in the evening and that he seemed to be somewhat under the influence of liquor. He remained about an hour, talking with the young chap known as Earl. Ottinger says he did not see Mutch alive after he left with Earl.

HILL HAS LINE IS RUMOR. Western Pacific Believed to Be in Hands of Empire-Builders.

NEW YORK, Jan. 19.—(Special.)—The sharp upturn in the stock market started in the Great Northern group. Naturally the old rumor that Burlington & Co. were to be retired through the issuance of new bonds under the recent \$500,000,000 blanket mortgage filed by the Hill road was revived, and this caused a spurt in Northern Pacific.

Later a far more interesting story was sprung in explanation of the strength of Great Northern. It was to the effect that James J. Hill had obtained control of the Western Pacific, with which the Great Northern shortly would be connected.

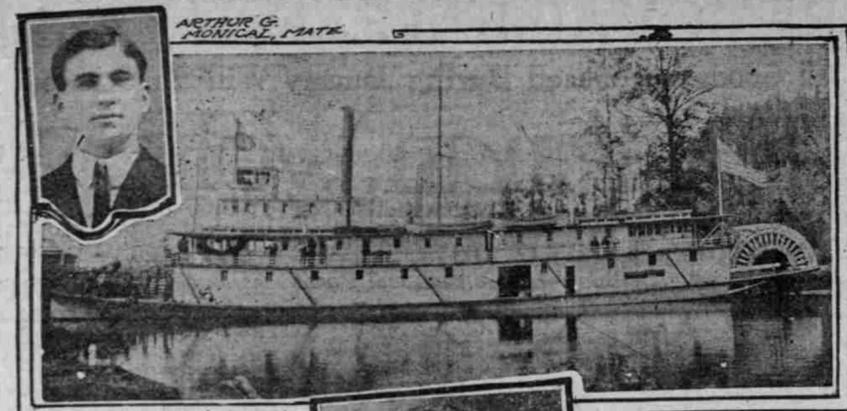
For many months financial circles have insisted that if ever the Western Pacific developed into a railroad it would become such under Hill management.

The Hill interests would gain various advantages through acquisition of the Western Pacific. It would at once make Hill a power in Harriman territory.

DEAL COSTS HILL MILLION. Great Northern's Cutoff in Idaho of 35 Miles is Expensive.

SPOKANE, Wash., Jan. 19.—(Special.)—The Great Northern Railroad has let a \$1,900,000 contract to Guthrie & McDougall, of St. Paul, to take the curves out of the main line of the Great Northern between Sand Point and Albany Falls, Idaho, and a little beyond, a distance of about 25 miles.

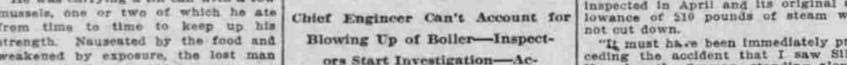
### RIVER CRAFT WRECKED BY EXPLOSION AND THREE MEN WHO LOST THEIR LIVES.



ARTHUR G. MONICAL, MATE



SILAS KNOWLES, FIREMAN



CAPTAIN FRED R. STINSON

### WRECK NOT SOLVED

#### Bodies Are Not Recovered From Dixon Disaster.

#### WOMAN COOK RESCUED

#### Chief Engineer Can't Account for Blowing Up of Boiler—Inspectors Start Investigation—Accident Third in Year.

Facing the third serious accident to the fleet in less than a year, officers of the Shaver Transportation Company prepared early yesterday to raise the wrecked steamer Sarah Dixon, which had drifted to a point near Kalama after the explosion at 11:15 o'clock Thursday night, when she was a short distance above Martin's Island light, headed down stream. Captain James Shaver was at the scene early, the steamer Wauna having been ordered out, and at 10 o'clock the gasoline tug Echo left Portland with men and supplies.

Captain Shaver reported that no bodies had been recovered from the wreck and that the boiler was split on top, but the cause of the explosion was not established. As Captain Fred R. Stinson and Mate Arthur Monical were in the pilot-house at the time of the explosion, it is supposed that their bodies were blown into the river, as the pilot-house and texas were wrecked, and the lower house was badly damaged. Unless the hull was injured more than appeared to those at the scene, it probably will be the only portion of the vessel saved with her machinery. As Silas Knowles, fireman, was standing in the fire-room it is thought that he was mangled, as he must have been in the path of the full force of the explosion.

The steamer Lurline stood by the wreck early in the morning, after having taken on the survivors at Kalama, and her crew put an anchor to hold the Sarah Dixon fast until her owners could reach there.

None of those who lost their lives was named. Captain Stinson had been in the service of the Shaver Transportation Company more than 12 years, having worked up from the deck force, and Mate Monical was with the company for a long period. Fireman Knowles entered the service as a logger, but owing to his massive build and weight was too heavy for the work and was given a fireman's berth.

Captain Stinson, with Paul Peterson, a logger, and Jeff Owsley, watchman on the Dixon, were on the steamer M. F. Henderson when she was struck by the tug Samson near Bugby Hole, July 22, 1911. The Henderson was practically a total loss, her machinery being the principal property saved.

The first disaster of last year for the Shaver fleet was the burning of the steamer Shaver, April 29, as she was berthed at the Davis-street dock, most of her house being destroyed. Members of the crew experienced narrow escapes, but there were no fatalities.

United States inspectors of Steam Assets, Edwards and Fuller, began an investigation into the Sarah Dixon explosion yesterday and the testimony of Chester L. Lewis, chief engineer; Steve Menzies, assistant engineer, and Harry Dewey, fireman, was taken. Others probably will be called today but so far no light has been thrown on the mystery of the boiler explosion. Four years ago the Dixon's boiler was installed new, and at the same time her hull was replaced. The boiler was last inspected in April and its condition was found to be satisfactory.

"It must have been immediately preceding the accident that I saw Silas Knowles, the fireman, standing alongside the boiler with his eyes on the water glass," said Chief Engineer yesterday. "He was a careful and conscientious fireman and I cannot think that the result was from water trouble. We were carrying about 200 pounds of steam and had no reason to make fast time, as we were not due down the river until daylight."

"It seemed to me that when the boiler exploded it shattered everything above it, the ceiling of the lower house being torn away, and the force in the pilot-house must have been terrific. I got as far as my room, thinking to get some clothing, but even that far aft everything was wrecked. The steamer's house must have been the port side and before we left the edge of the hurricane deck was under water. We experienced difficulty in getting into the boats, but Mr. H. H. Hill, the cook, had the hardest time as she was in water up to her waist before we got her into a boat."

"I remarked to the boys that the wreck was drifting, as soon after the explosion we passed the Martin Island light and the workboat in the water, but after pulling as far as Hoffman's Landing we tied the work boat to dolphins there. We knew the tide was ebbing and thought the best place to head for was Kalama."

Stambotmew said that the accident on the Sarah Dixon is but the second of the character of the Willamette, the first having been the steamer Senator, house must have been the port side and before we left the edge of the hurricane deck was under water. We experienced difficulty in getting into the boats, but Mr. H. H. Hill, the cook, had the hardest time as she was in water up to her waist before we got her into a boat."

The meeting was attended by 50 leading Democrats, a number of whom expressed opinions as to the duty of Democrats to get together and work for the common interest of the party. Among these speakers were Oglesby Young, John H. Stevenson and M. E. Gibson.

R. W. Montague declared yesterday that regardless of the opinions expressed by many leading party members in Portland that the Wilson-Harvey incident and the Bryan letter would eliminate Wilson from the race for the Presidential candidacy, he believed it would not have that effect.

Support Declared Retained. "I haven't heard of anyone who was a Wilson supporter who is not one still," said Mr. Montague. "The opponents, many of whom have expressed these incidents. I believe Wilson acted the part of a man in refusing to accept the support of Harperts Weekly. He did not consider it proper to be backed by Wall street interests and man-like he expressed his views openly. I believe records will show that two-thirds of the rank and file of Democrats in the state are for him, and I don't believe they have been

### DEMOCRATS PLEAD FOR UNITED PARTY

#### Speakers at Portland Jackson Club Meeting Deplore Present Discord.

### WILSON INCIDENT VEILED

#### Expected Comment on Controversy of New Jersey Aspirant With Colonel Harvey Does Not Develop as Predicted.

Wrath of Portland Democrats over the actions of Governor Wilson in the Wilson-Harvey incident and the Bryan letter tempered down to such a degree yesterday that it formed the basis of but little comment at last night's meeting of the Jackson Club, contrary to expectations.

The leading speaker at the meeting was F. C. Hunt, who essayed to explain some of the Democratic troubles and to show the whys and wherefores of the Wilson and other controversies.

Plan Made for Harmony. "The Republican party is attempting to distract from its own feuds by pointing out some of the so-called troubles of the Democrats," said Mr. Hunt. "But we must not stand for it. Democrats must quit quarreling and get together. I believe that if the great Andrew Jackson should rise from his grave and speak he would shout at the top of his voice, 'Democrats, for God's sake quit fighting and get together in the cause of pure Democracy.' It does not matter who the man is, who is run for the Presidency—it's the principles he represents. The Republicans have their troubles in selecting a Presidential candidate."

"Personally, I believe that the Democratic party will not have to pit its candidate against President Taft, but will have to fight against Theodore Roosevelt, the most unscrupulous, political manipulator, audacious, flourishing and dangerous demagogue ever entrusted with high authority. For years the Democratic party has been meeting defeat, but clouds are appearing on the Republican horizon and the Democratic skies are getting brighter."

Republicans Are Blamed. Francis Clarno, who spoke at the meeting, declared that the Wilson controversy is promoted by the Republican party interests. "If Wilson is to be relegated to the background," declared Clarno, "let it be by the will of the people and not by any political clique. As for me, I believe Bryan is the greatest man on God's green earth. He is a second Napoleon, and I cannot think that he has not had an opportunity to demonstrate his worth. Roosevelt is the only man who has ever had an opportunity to practice the things developed and worked out by Bryan."

He praised Roosevelt for tenacity and grit. "Even if I am a Democrat in a Democratic meeting," he said, "I can appreciate the tenacity of Roosevelt, who stood up against all the world for what he thought was right."

Party Principles Held First. Ernest Kroner expressed the opinion that Democrats ought to fight for Democracy and not for the personalities of candidates who might be selected to represent those principles.

"We must continue our bickering on unimportant questions and unite for the good of the Democratic platform as a whole," he said. "Leave it to the ability of any man the party nominates for the Presidential campaign to work out these principles."

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turned by these incidents, which have been magnified out of all proportion to their importance. No matter goes through a campaign without his enemies clubbing him."

Samuel White, who declares he is an ardent Democrat, but not especially a Wilson supporter, said: "I stand for any man who represents the Democratic principles. As for the Harvey incident, I believe it is a molehill made into a mountain. It is a trick to force into retirement one of the strongest men in the party, who is now a prospective candidate. As for the Bryan letter, nobody is worrying about it. Bryan is not."

There was a great deal of criticism by some of the Democrats about the views expressed by others on the Wilson-Harvey incident. It was announced early in the day that a lively session was scheduled for the Jackson Club meeting, but it is thought the pending storm was forestalled before the meeting hour. Only one of those who denounced Wilson Thursday was present at the meeting.

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### RIVER STEAMER WRECKED BY BOILER EXPLOSION AS IT NOW APPEARS.



SARAH DIXON PARTLY SUBMERGED NEAR KALAMA. —Photo by L. W. Jones, 870 Haight Ave.