

# MOTHER WILL TRY TO SAVE ROBERTS

## Attempt to Be Made to Show Slayer Suspect Fired Gun at Chinese Pheasants.

# SON TOLD HER OF CRIME

## Woman Declares That Prisoner Informed Her That He Had Read of Automobile Holdup in Paper at Store.

MULINO, Or., April 9.—(Special.)—Mrs. J. G. Pfeiffer, mother of H. E. Roberts, accused of murdering George Hastings and Donald S. Stewart, two of an automobile party on the White House Road near Briggswood on the night of March 23, will try to prove that her son used the shells missing from his belt in shooting at Chinese pheasants on her farm, before he left to hunt for work.

The Pfeiffers live on a 40-acre farm 12 miles from Oregon City. They rent the farm from W. P. Madoc, an employe of the Eastern Union Telegraph Company. Mr. Pfeiffer is an Advertiser and sells books explaining his religion. Roberts was arrested at the Pfeiffer farm by Sheriff Stevens. Mrs. Pfeiffer said that the first time she knew why her son was arrested was when she received The Weekly Oregonian last Friday.

**Son Tells Mother of Crime.**  
Her son, she said, had read about the murder at a country store and had mentioned it to her, remarking that he had been in the vicinity. She is anxious for him to receive a preliminary trial that she may be able to give evidence, and is worried lest she is not notified of the time of the trial.

Mrs. Pfeiffer said that her son was arrested for stealing burros when he was 18 years old. He had bought the burros in Washington and had sold them, making a profit sufficient to send him to school in Astoria for nine months.

Upon his return he learned that the burros had not been treated properly and tried to buy them. He was unsuccessful and so he stole them and was convicted and sent to the Penitentiary.

Sometimes after his release he was found with some tools in his possession, which had been stolen from the residence of a member of the firm of Lang & Co. Mrs. Pfeiffer said that her son was urged to plead guilty, and she was sufficient to convict him, and, being promised a small term, he did so, although he asserted he would fight the case from a man named McElroy. For this offense he was sentenced to a term of six years in the Penitentiary.

**Mother Accuses McElroy.**  
McElroy, according to Mrs. Pfeiffer, had lived in a boathouse on the Columbia River, near a boathouse in which Mrs. Pfeiffer lived with a former husband. There was a third and unoccupied boathouse nearby, which both used as a storeroom. Mrs. Pfeiffer said that McElroy stole a sack of her potatoes and burned the sack to hide his crimes.

"I am sorry the name of Roberts' mother has been so publicly in connection with the arrest of her son," said Sheriff Stevens last night. "It has always been the policy of my office to spare mothers and fathers of prisoners what pain and distress we can. However, since Roberts' mother's name has been made public, I will say that when arrested and Roberts was informed by Mrs. Pfeiffer that her son was again in custody and explained to her the nature of the charges against him."

# PRISONER TO PICK LAWYER

## Roberts Does Not Want Man to Go Into Case for Publicity.

While no fewer than 20 Portland attorneys are scrambling to get the appointment by Circuit Judge Kavanaugh of attorney for H. E. Roberts, the convict, suspected of the attempted murder of George Hastings and Donald S. Stewart, the accused, made a consideration which attorney of the number to select. Yesterday for the first time, the surly suspect informed the officers that he wanted an attorney to represent him in the trial in which it is apparent he is going to put up a fight. Immediately Sheriff Stevens notified Presiding Judge Kavanaugh and Roberts called into the Judge's chambers. Several names of attorneys who have asked for the appointment were referred to Roberts, but he was not willing as yet to make a selection.

"Everyone has got it in for me," said Roberts. "I don't want to get an attorney who will get in the case merely to advertise it will give him. I want someone who will handle the case for me despite the fact that the state pays him."

Judge Kavanaugh told him to think it over and report to him whenever he made up his mind on an attorney. Last night Roberts gave no intimation as to his selection. When Roberts was first arrested, the case was referred to the County Jail here. Since the arrest there have been no fewer than 10 attorneys at the jail to see Roberts. All have been refused interviews with the prisoner, at his own suggestion.

Sheriff Stevens and the other officers working on the case passed yesterday checking up on some of the details of the evidence worked up against the prisoner. The officers went to the scene of the crime and had talks with several persons, but secured no additional information of importance.

Attorney John H. Stevenson has been retained by Charles Stewart, father of one of the murdered boys, as special prosecutor against Roberts. Mr. Stevenson has been keeping careful tab on the developments and says he believes the officers have strong evidence. The grand jury probably will take up the case before the end of the present week.

Irving Lupton, who also was shot, is recovering from his wounds. He is still confined to his bed at his home in the Desford Apartments.

# HELP IS PROMISED EVANS

## Personal Campaign to Be Made for Candidate.

Fifty men, in the audience of about 100 attending the campaign meeting held at the Universalist Church in Irvington Monday night, declared their intention to attend other meetings and take up active personal solicitation to win votes for Walter H. Evans for District Attorney. D. O. Lively, the first speaker on the programme, made a plea for a campaign of personal work. Prior to this declaration,

# GOVERNMENT ROAD ADVISED BY FISHER

## Secretary Suggests Use of Panama Equipment for Line in Alaska.

# IMMEDIATE ACTION URGED

## Cabinet Member Would Do Away With Commissions—Plenty of Supplies on Hand to Build From Tidewater to Yukon.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, April 9.—In letters to the territorial committee of the Senate and House of Representatives, Secretary of the Interior Walter Fisher has strongly urged the passage by Congress of a bill which will provide for the immediate construction of a railroad from tidewater to the Yukon River, Alaska, without waiting for a commission to form, make long and tedious studies of the situation, and then report to Congress on the advisability of a Government-owned railroad in Alaska.

# RECALL OF JUDGES HIT

## CHARLES FULTON DISCUSSES SUBJECT AT BANQUET.

### Law Would Work Hardship on Minority, He Says—The Majority Could Take Care of Itself.

The enactment of a law for the recall of Judges will work a hardship on those compelled to go into court, was the statement of Charles W. Fulton, ex-United States Senator, before the Brotherhood of the First Congregational Church at a Banquet at the church last night. He said the United States Constitution established a government by law, not by men, and that the Constitution aimed to protect the minority as well as the majority. The majority, he said, could always take care of itself.

He pointed out that if Judges are compelled to learn the popular will before rendering their decisions, they will sacrifice the rights of those before the bar of justice to their own selfish interests.

"If we need courage in any place in all this land of ours," said Mr. Fulton, "we need it on the bench. A corrupt judge is a awful curse. We have had the weak judge—yes, but the corrupt judge, thank God, very rarely. I see but little difference in the ultimate consequences to the people between a corrupt judge and a cowardly judge. Each is equally dangerous if not equally vicious."

"We need men on the bench whose consciences will not be drowned by the voice of the mob, but who will listen to the still, small voice of conscience and who will decide the case at bar according to the law and the evidence. I believe in holding judges, as other men, responsible to the people. If they violate it, punish them. If they are corrupt, indict them and prosecute them. They are men, and only men. They are no more sacred than any other citizen."

"The recall of judges, in my opinion, is sufficiently fallacious, but the recall of decisions is the limit of absurdity. Why should the great body of the people take up the case of Smith against Jones and determine whether the Constitution has been properly interpreted? In that case, the people are called upon to study the question with the fidelity and earnestness necessary to a proper solution. We would soon have a library of constitutional questions that would make a philosopher crazy."

"Judges sit, not to know what the majority thinks about a case, what the people of a community may be, whether it wants this man hung, this man indicted in damages, or this man deprived of his home and freedom, but to know the facts and determine what is just and an right."

# HOLTZ BACK FROM TRIP

## Department Store Manager Pleasured With Conditions East.

Aaron Holtz, of the new Holtz department store, at the northwest corner of Fifth and Washington streets, now returning from his trip to New York City and other Eastern markets. He said that buyers of the various departments are now on their way home and that upon their arrival they will begin to arrange their stocks for the opening, which will take place about June 15.

"I'm mighty glad to be in Portland again," he said, "and I also want to tell you that the Rose City is on the mental map of every Eastern man I came in contact with. I never saw retail business any better. The stores, big and little, department as well as exclusive, were all crowded. You can guess at the crowds when I tell you that there were at least 2500 people in the millinery department of Gimbel's during the afternoon I was there. One thing I found that pleased me was that no wholesaler seemed to have an overstock, a condition of things that speaks well for the future in manufacturing."

# BATTERY, A GIVES BALL

## Armory Scene of Brilliant Affair Attended by 400 Persons.

Battery A, Field Artillery, Oregon National Guard, gave its annual ball in the armory last night, which was attended by 400 persons. Mesdames William E. Finzer, Lee M. Clark, Frank I. Randall and William Rosenstock were the patronesses.

The room was decorated in red and yellow. The lights were covered in these colors and also there were colored streamers and bunting. The room was a Sergeant's tent, pitched and furnished for field duty.

The scarcity of military uniforms was noticeable, most of the men wearing civilian clothes. The dance lasted until the early hours and was much enjoyed by all who were present.

# Judge Disagrees With Jury.

COLUMBIA, Wash., April 8.—District Judge Carey nonsuited today the case against William Taylor, J. S. Fellows and J. W. Gillingham, prominent citizens of Springfield, found guilty by a jury yesterday on the charge of inciting riot. The cases grew out of a recent fight between the wets and dries which culminated in a meeting of the Springfield Citizens' Council at which revolvers were drawn and bloodshed seemed imminent.

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# Prosperity Clothes

If you're well dressed, you're a herald of prosperity; you're worth more to your employer—to your own business—than you are if poorly or carelessly clad. You'll feel your worth when you're dressed in worthy clothing.

We've the making of much prosperity here in this men's good-clothes shop; we'll be glad to help you to your share.

The prosperous kind of clothes costs only \$20 to \$35. Lots of good fabrics—tailoring that's faultless. Suppose you come in and look them over.

MEN'S SHOP, MAIN FLOOR

# Ben Selling

LEADING CLOTHIER  
Morrison Street at Fourth

the interior would not be justified upon military and naval as well as upon commercial considerations.

# Leasing Plan Advised.

Secretary Fisher recommends that the Commission to have charge of the construction of the Alaska railroad should have authority to lease or make operating agreements with existing railroads, rather than construct an entirely independent railroad, or to acquire any of the existing roads for this purpose. He thinks, however, the Government should own outright its main trunk line from tidewater to the Yukon.

Now that Secretary Fisher's views are of record, efforts will be made at an early day to get committee action on pending bills providing for a Government railroad in Alaska.

# Railroad Fill Nearing Completion.

The fill on the blocks of the Southern Pacific Company for the new East Side freight depot and freight facilities is nearing completion, and will be finished this month, when work will be started on the depot building on East Oak and East Second streets. Three blocks will be filled between East Oak street

and the Burnside bridge approach. That part between East Oak and East Ash streets have been filled the required height and the ground has been staked off for the depot. The material pumped from the bottom of the river is gravel mixed with sand and will make a solid fill, with little or no settling. Sanitary conditions will be greatly improved on all the blocks and much material has been carried northward and will cover the muddy bottom of the lowlands nearly to East Flanders street.

# Mrs. Lou Lewis Passes On.

Mrs. Lou J. Lewis, a native daughter of Oregon, and wife of one of the founders of the Willamette Iron Works, died yesterday at St. Vincent's Hospital following an operation. Mrs. Lewis was the daughter of Mrs. Rachel E. Beer, a pioneer of 1847, and one of the few who escaped death in the Whitman massacre. Her father was Robert Beer, a Mexican War veteran and pioneer Oregonian. Mrs. Lewis was born in Yamhill County in 1851. Her husband died several years ago. She is survived by two sons, Owen J. Lewis, of San Francisco, and Herbert Lewis, of

Portland, Mrs. O. N. Denny, who also escaped from the Whitman massacre, is a half-sister. The funeral has not been arranged.

# Samuel Hill to Lecture.

Samuel Hill, president of the Home Telephone Company of Portland, will give a free stereopticon lecture at the First Presbyterian Church tonight, showing scenes along the Columbia River in contrast with scenic spots in France, Italy, Germany, England and Scotland.

# Watching the fact that in the Beer war

it took 3000 shots to hit a man," the celebrated rifle shot, Commodore says, "in spite of improvements in the power, precision and rate of fire of modern weapons, the percentage of hits was immeasurably greater 100 years ago than it is today."



WATCH FOR PHOTO CONTEST  
COME ON ALONG TO  
**EASTMORELAND**

# I have three sworn enemies--

## the drunkard, heavy drinker, and the man who craves rough, strong, high-proof whiskey

Cyrus Noble

Bottled at drinking strength

You can buy White Shoes at any of the leading shoe stores—

**BUT WHITE HOSE**

Must be bought of Lennon's if you would have them right.

**FOR WOMEN**

White Silk Lisle Hose, 25c, 39c, 50c

White Pure Silk Hose, 50c, 75c, \$1.00

Men's and Children's Hose, Too

309 Morrison Street

**Lennon's**

FOR GLOVES AND UNDERWEAR

The House That Quality Built