

LAFRANCE DECEASES GOOD FRIENDS

Insurance Defrauder Says Two Portland Medical Students Were Aides.

BUSINESS AGENT INVOLVED

Various Stories Told as "Truth" by Prisoner Vary Much and Prosecutor Evans Continues Quest for More Facts.

Unable to obtain verification of any of the several conflicting stories told by J. C. La France relative to where he secured the body which was paid off as his, resulting in the collection by his wife of \$15,000 in life insurance money, District Attorney Evans yesterday related episodes of the various versions for publication.

Medical Students Blamed

The explanation given by the medical students was given by the medical students when he was taken to the jail several hours on the night of the day he was returned from the hospital.

Students Met at Dances

La France says he met the two students at dances and did not know them very well. He asserts they became aware that he had a \$10,000 policy in the Postal Life Insurance Company and immediately began to scheme how he could collect the money.

Tale of Buried Money Told

The prisoner said that he believed, but was not certain, that his confederates had been known also as E. J. Rector and John Cogger. This lead was followed up without avail.

ADVERTISING MAN VISITOR

Suggestion Made That Coast Cities Employ Eastern Representative

Granville M. Hunt, chairman of the conventions committee of the Washington Chamber of Commerce, and executive committee of the Washington Ad Club, a visitor to Portland, and will spend 30 days here of his six-months' vacation.

EXCURSION TO HILLSBORO

Sunday Round Trip, Including Lunch, 25c.

Get tickets now at 90 Fifth street—train leaves Jefferson-st. depot, Front and Jefferson streets at 10:30 A. M. Sunday.

Collection Agent Called

The collection agent named by La France was called to the District Attorney's office and "quizzed" without being told what La France had said.

himself that he was the same Franklin against whom he had a bill. He and La France, this man said, had been in a boat near the river that night. During the night he saw someone with a lantern, apparently signalling from a railroad, across a short distance away. He fired two shots, being nervous, and recalled that La France had not become excited, but advised him to shoot low. Every time he had awakened, he had found La France also awake, but Mr. Evans attaches no importance to this, sleeping on hard ground when not accustomed to it. The collection agent was apparently open and frank in his statements and made a favorable impression on the deputies who talked to him in the District Attorney's office.

Students Involved Again

Then a couple of days ago La France switched back to his original story, varying it to a great extent, but preserving the main features. This was the most interesting yarn of all. After arranging to become a party to the fraud he had gone, under instructions from the students, to a hardware store near the Hawthorne bridge and purchased a tent and had hidden the body during the night. La France had come back to Portland the next day and had been placed on the one following, coming up with his companions again. They had debated about where to place the body, suggesting the river, the bridges and rifles in the river. There were fears that it might be discovered before sufficiently decayed if the freight car was used.

La France Strips Off Clothing

La France had stripped himself of everything, including his underclothing, and his clothes were placed in a position that finders naturally would come to the conclusion that a man had fallen from an inclined log and been carried back to Portland one by one so as to avoid being seen together.

Deed Done; Gravity Realized

It must have been this student, he said, who talked to the collector on the way out to Estacada, the conversation being partially about the knapsack, which the conductor was aware he bought in the city, and who had purchased the sardines at the Estacada grocery, these acts being part of a deliberate and arranged plan to enable the alleged La France to be traced easily. Fergar had gone to La France's tie-cutting camp near Donald to notify him of the finding of the body, and La France also had read an account of it in The Oregonian on July 1, 1912. Then it was, he says, that he realized what he had committed himself.

Evans Continues Probe

District Attorney Evans attaches no particular importance to any of La France's explanations about the body, but admits that any of them may be true or partially true. He is in hopes that publicity may lead to the identification of some person who can shed some light on the subject. He has had Frank Beatty, his special investigator, making the rounds of the cabdrivers and expressmen in Portland with La France in the faint hope that the prisoner might recognize one of them as the driver who took the body to Estacada, but so far La France has failed to do so.

Hotels and rooming-houses where La France says he and his confederates took rooms and money to get the body, but nothing definite has come of it.

CITY EMPLOYES TO STAY

Old Habit of Doing Other Work in Summer Is Stopped.

The practice of a number of city employees securing leaves of absence during the Summer months to take work which pays better than the city positions was stopped yesterday by the Civil Service Commission when the petition of several employees for leaves of absence during the Summer were rejected.

BEAUTIFUL HOME SITE FREE

To be given away absolutely. Go on the Sunday afternoon at Hillsboro you may get the lot. Secure tickets at 90 Fifth st. at once. Round trip, including lunch, 25c. Train leaves Jefferson-st. depot at 10:30 A. M. Sunday.

Mrs. Strang Declared Insane

Mrs. Lillian Strang was declared to be insane at the time she administered poison to her daughter Marcia, aged 5 years, whose death occurred Monday at Good Samaritan Hospital, by the Coroner's jury at an inquest held Wednesday. This will probably nullify the complaint of first-degree murder which was filed against her. Mrs. Strang was too ill to be told of the death. The two other children are reported to be improving.

OLD RAILROADERS INVITED

Iowa Organization Will Hold Reunion May 26 and 27.

Invitations have been received by a number of Portland citizens to attend the reunion of "Old-Time Railway Men of Iowa" which will be held in Des Moines on May 26 and 27. In Iowa there is a unique organization, known

GATEWAYS BEARING WELL TOPE TODAY

Harriman System's Order to Come Up Before Inter-State Examiner.

TRAFFIC OFFICIALS IN CITY

Coast Shippers Are Complainants Against Attempt to Close Spokane, Silver Bow, Denver and Wallula to Competition.

Whether the attempts of the Harriman railroad system to close the "gateways" at Denver, Spokane, Silver Bow and Wallula against its competitors is legal will be argued before Examiner Canham, of the Interstate Commerce Commission, in the Federal building, beginning at 10 o'clock this morning.

Traffic officials and attorneys for the various officials of the Harriman system began gathering in Portland yesterday to attend the hearing. Came from Omaha H. A. Scandrett, interstate commerce attorney for the Union Pacific, and W. H. Garrett, assistant general freight agent of the Union Pacific, and from Salt Lake City J. E. Reeves, general freight agent of the Oregon Short Line. The following officials of the O.-W. R. & N. Co. will appear for that road: R. B. Miller, traffic manager; F. W. Robinson, assistant traffic manager; H. E. Lounsbury, general freight agent, and A. C. Spencer, general attorney.

Coast Shippers Complain

The complainants in the case are the West Coast Lumber Manufacturing Association, the Portland Chamber of Commerce and the Northwest Fruit-growers' Association. Represented by F. G. Donaldson also will appear for the lumbermen, and J. H. Lohr for the transportation committee of the Chamber of Commerce.

Traffic Principle Involved

The principle involved in the controversy is that of the power of a road or a system of roads to take the longest possible haul on the gateway, which it operates or which it furnishes the market. On the theory that this is a just and fair principle of transportation, the Harriman attorneys will have to contend with the rates by which the gateways would be closed are just and legal.

Effect is Pointed Out

It is natural that the Northern Pacific will want to haul this freight over its own rails for the greatest possible distance. But now the Harriman lines proceed, in effect, to say: "All business moving to and from 'dead local' points in our territory must be delivered to us at the same rate as to other points—otherwise the rates will be higher."

Four Alleged Swindlers Now Held for Portland Police With Variety of Charges Pending.

With four alleged swindlers of women under arrest for the Portland authorities, the business of plausible men victimizing susceptible women through pretenses of affection is shown to be one of magnitude.

MANY WOMEN VICTIMS

ATTORNEYS TELL OF WILES PRACTICED BY MEN.

Four Alleged Swindlers Now Held for Portland Police With Variety of Charges Pending.

With four alleged swindlers of women under arrest for the Portland authorities, the business of plausible men victimizing susceptible women through pretenses of affection is shown to be one of magnitude.

ADVERTISING MAN VISITOR

Suggestion Made That Coast Cities Employ Eastern Representative

Granville M. Hunt, chairman of the conventions committee of the Washington Chamber of Commerce, and executive committee of the Washington Ad Club, a visitor to Portland, and will spend 30 days here of his six-months' vacation.

EXCURSION TO HILLSBORO

Sunday Round Trip, Including Lunch, 25c.

Get tickets now at 90 Fifth street—train leaves Jefferson-st. depot, Front and Jefferson streets at 10:30 A. M. Sunday.

Collection Agent Called

The collection agent named by La France was called to the District Attorney's office and "quizzed" without being told what La France had said.

Excursion to Hillsboro

Sunday Round Trip, Including Lunch, 25c.

Get tickets now at 90 Fifth street—train leaves Jefferson-st. depot, Front and Jefferson streets at 10:30 A. M. Sunday.

Collection Agent Called

The collection agent named by La France was called to the District Attorney's office and "quizzed" without being told what La France had said.

FACTS 18 STORES Buying Selling Pleasing POWER

In "Owl" Store announcements you can always depend upon reading facts, and facts only. You'll find no misrepresentations, no quibbling with the truth—just plain, simple facts about the goods we carry. And it's a fact, too, that you can save money by being an "Owl" patron.

Red Feather Rose Talcum Makes Its Initial Appearance in Portland and Is Now Ready for You at "THE OWL"

Red Feather Rose Talcum THE PRICE IS 25c

"Owl" Theatrical Cold Cream 50c

"Gold Leaf" AUTO TAPE 19c

WITCH HAZEL 50c

Keep a Bottle of "Owl" Witch Hazel

To Break Up That Cold, Take Compound WHITE PINE TWO SIZES—25c and 50c

MANY WOMEN VICTIMS ATTORNEYS TELL OF WILES PRACTICED BY MEN.

Four Alleged Swindlers Now Held for Portland Police With Variety of Charges Pending.

\$25 Cash Will Buy This 88-Note Splendid Player Piano—Removal Sale Specials "The Piano Anyone Can Play"

Investigate. Don't buy a 65-note player piano, when you can buy this up-to-date 88-note player piano for \$365.

Pianos for \$45, \$135, \$185, \$215, Etc. Terms of Payment \$5 or \$6 Monthly

Graves Music Co. 111 Fourth St.

YOU can make this a summer of double pleasure by taking a KODAK with you on your outings and vacations. Let us show you the different Kodak models and how simple and easy they are to operate. WE DO DEVELOPING AND PRINTING THE SATISFACTORY AND QUICKEST WAY.

"They Won't Come Out" —THE BRISTLES in "The Owl" 25c

TOOTH BRUSHES These Guaranteed Brushes come from France, where the world's best bristle goods are produced.

CHOICE OF ANY 25-CENT TOOTH BRUSH SPECIAL SATURDAY AT 19c

CASCADE LINEN A Double Value in STATIONERY

A DOZEN SPECIALS FOR FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

Moth Balls 5c

Jap Rose Soap 6c

Powdered Borax 6c

Rose Cold Cream 14c

Pure Glycerine 14c

Magic Insect Powder 14c

Seidlitz Powders 14c

Castor Oil 14c

Saponol Tooth Powder 17c

Hays' Hair Health 29c

Cream of Tartar 29c

Beef, Iron and Wine 39c

Fresh Chocolate-Dipped Almonds, Friday and Saturday, special, lb. 45c

The Owl Drug Co. THE MOST OF THE BEST FOR THE LEAST

BROADWAY AND WASHINGTON ESTABLISHED 1892—EIGHTEEN STORES ON THE PACIFIC COAST

Don't forget this! Insecticide kills the bedbug. Main 292, at 260 Third. Plummer Drug Co.

Graves Music Co. 111 Fourth St.