

KELSO SLAYER GETS LIFE PRISON TERM

William Roy Horner Admits Triple Murder and Signs Lengthy Confession.

STORY OF KILLING RELATED

"While My Crime Was Committed in a Moment of Passion, I Feel That I Deserve Punishment Imposed," Says Murderer.

KALAMA, Wash., May 27.—(Special.)—William Roy Horner this afternoon signed a written confession in the presence of Sheriff Studebaker, of Cowlitz County, and Sheriff Ward, of Okanogan County; a half an hour he stood before Judge William T. Burch in a crowded courtroom, pleaded guilty to his crime, and was sentenced to life imprisonment at hard labor.

Up to this time Horner had maintained a calm demeanor, but when the full import of his sentence dawned upon him his nerve weakened and he had to be assisted from the courtroom by Sheriff Studebaker. When questioned in his cell later he said: "While my crime was committed in a moment of passion, I feel that I deserve everything in the way of punishment that has been inflicted upon me. I will deed the 125-acre ranch at Aeneas Valley to the heirs of Mrs. Bassett by way of restitution. I will also deed the ranch which I bought from Mrs. Bassett, paying her \$1500, to my sister, Mrs. Myrtle Dale, 502 Cherry street, Nevada, Mo."

Triple Murder Admitted.

The prisoner signed the following confession: "I, William Roy Horner, make the following statement: On May 15, Wednesday, we came down to Kalama, Rantou, had lunch there and then came on to the next town, Kent. Mrs. Bassett got out of the car and went to get the deed. She came back and said they did not have stamps, revenue stamps, to put on it. We left Kent and camped some place between Sumner and Tacoma, where she got the stamps. I gave her the \$25 and then made out a note and gave it to her. It was for \$3000. We then camped at Tenino and had lunch at the same place and drove to just outside of Kelso, where we stopped for the night. We switched tent, had supper and talked about things in general around the campfire, and about half past eight or nine o'clock Mrs. Bassett and the children went in the tent and retired.

Marriage Request Refused.

"After a while I went in. Mrs. Bassett was on the left side, the little girl in the center and the boy on the extreme right, and I on the right or outside next to the woman. The children were still awake. I went to sleep and awoke about daylight. Mrs. Bassett awoke and we began to talk. She asked me to marry her, begged me to. I told her I could not, she was too old. She got excited and angry. She cursed me for a while. I then turned over, thought about it, got mad and went crazy. I got up and got the gun and shot her.

"I don't know how many times I shot. My gun was a .35-caliber. I shot her inside the tent door. I then went outside to the car. It would not start and I was in the tent and I suppose I was this bright gun, and I suppose that I would change the guns and leave the other there. I took out the empty shell. Then I went in the tent and put this gun in there and then went back to the car and drove as far as Troutdale. I asked about getting across the river. A man told me I couldn't on account of the snow in the pass. So I thought I would drive back.

Car Offered For Sale.

"I drove back to just this side of Camp Lewis and remained there for the night. I left there at 7 o'clock in the morning and drove to North Bend, stayed at a rooming house, and in the morning I went to the garage. I talked to the man. He said it would be cheaper for me to leave the car there and he said he would try to sell it for me. I asked him for how much and he said 5 per cent. I told him he could sell it and gave him an order to sell the Ford for \$400. I then took the car and went with my trunk to the depot. Got a ticket to Wenatchee and while there I decided to have my eyes tested. This I did, and that day went on to Omak. Then I went out to Mr. Riley's and got a team, my trunk and some groceries, and went back to Mr. Riley's that night.

"I started home and had got as far as Meadows when I met Sheriff Ward. He took me to Okanogan and then to Seattle and from there to Kalama, accompanied by Sheriff Studebaker and Delis Spaulding, County Attorney. After the murder I found that I thought I had given to Mrs. Bassett, in my coat pocket, but do not know just how it got there. I am guilty of the murder of Mrs. Bassett and children and I'm willing to pay the penalty.

"This story is just as true as I can remember it. Signed, William Roy Horner."

NON-PARTISANS HUNTED

PATRIOTIC CITIZENS OF METHOW VALLEY SUSPICIOUS OF SECRECY.

Local Organizer, Who Admits He Is Financial Slacker, Told to Invest in Liberty Bonds "Pronto."

WENATCHEE, Wash., May 27.—(Special.)—The Methow Valley does not take kindly to the Non-Partisan League. Twenty-five automobiles and loads of patriotic citizens of Winthrop and Twisp met at Twisp last Saturday night to meet organizers and make them come out in the open and declare that their organization is patriotic.

The people have become suspicious of the methods of these organizers, who sneak in and sneak out and only interview a selected few whose names are given to them by local talent.

There were two places where these organizers were thought to be, one at Baily Hill, the other at Carlton. Only one organizer was found.

Charles Young, the local representative, although a man of considerable means, admitted that he had not supported the Government financially, and was told to invest in liberty bonds "pronto." Upon his promise to do so and after a severe warning to get into the patriotic bandwagon he was allowed to proceed on his way.

Wyeth Workmen Aid Red Cross.

HOOD RIVER, Or., May 27.—(Special.)—Wyeth, an O. W. R. & N. station just west of here, made an enviable record in the Red Cross drive. Frank

Williams, superintendent of the railway company's tie plant and coal bunkers, was here Saturday to turn over to Red Cross headquarters total donations of \$202.85. These funds were subscribed by 79 railway workmen and their families.

DEGE OFFERS HIS SERVICES

Democratic Nominee for Senator Is Anxious to Go to the Front.

TACOMA, Wash., May 27.—(Special.)—James H. Dege, Democratic nominee for United States Senator four years ago, has offered his services to the Government and has left for San Francisco to take his examination. He received a wire from Major-General



William Roy Horner, Confessed Murderer, Who Was Sentenced to Washington Penitentiary for Life Yesterday.

Charles G. Treat, of the Western Department, telling him to report to Mr. Dege held the rank of Captain at the time of the Spanish-American War, but peace was declared before his regiment was sent to the Philippines. Later he held the same rank in the National Guard.

Mr. Dege offered his services to the Government several weeks ago and said he would turn his salary over to the Red Cross if such action is legal. He has been in business in this city for many years.

Archdeacon Chambers Preaches.

WOODBURN, Or., May 26.—(Special.)—The large gymnasium of the high school was packed this evening, when Archdeacon H. D. Chambers, of Portland, preached an excellent baccalaureate sermon to the senior class of 11 graduates. The graduating exercises will be Friday night. This is the largest graduating high school class in the history of the school.

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LAND URGENT NEED

Interests of Returning Soldiers Are Considered.

LANE'S PLAN IS APPROVED

Interior Secretary's Proposal to Put Men Into Possession of Soil Endorsed by Professor Young, of University.

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene, May 27.—(Special.)—The plan of Franklin K. Lane, Secretary of the Interior, to provide lands for occupation by returning soldiers is heartily endorsed by Professor P. C. Young, head of the department of economics and sociology in the university and director of the Oregon Commonwealth Conference.

This very plan, Professor Young said today, is one of the subjects scheduled for discussion at the next session of the commonwealth conference to be held in Portland June 29 and 31. Secretary Lane will be asked to address the conference on the subject if it is convenient for him to be in Portland at the time of the meeting.

In his address at Los Angeles outlining his ideas on this subject, Secretary Lane advised supplying the department with a sufficient fund to make necessary studies and surveys for the reclamation of arid lands in the Southwest, the clearing of cut-over lands in the Pacific Northwest, in the Gulf and South Atlantic states and in the lake states, and the drainage of overflowed and swamp lands in various parts of the country.

Professor Young places land settlement first among the problems facing Oregon immediately after the war. The problems are outlined in the bulletin under the following headings: Land settlement; forest utilization; the problem of economic power for factory, field and home; an adapted transportation rate system with adequate facilities; a reconstruction finance system; a reconstruction employment system; the problem of selecting a staple industry or two for which Oregon has comparatively the preferred combination of continuing advantages and fostering it on well-matured public welfare basis; adapting of Oregon's educational agencies for ever-increasing democratic co-operation.

"SEND-OFF" PLANS LAID

SELECTIVE SOLDIERS TO DINE AT MULTNOMAH HOTEL.

Music, Vaudeville, Dialogues and Short Speeches Will Make Up Programme of Farewell Entertainment.

Plans for the "send-off" celebration in honor of 425 Portland boys who are scheduled to leave next Sunday night for various cantonments as a part of the second selective draft quota are well under way.

Mrs. Alice Benson Beach, of the National League of Women's Service, who was named by Mayor Baker to arrange for the dinner planned for the men at the Multnomah Hotel, has selected Miss Helen Flynn to arrange for the entertainment.

Music, vaudeville, dialogues and short speeches will compose the programme, according to Miss Flynn, who will announce a definite programme within a day or two. The speaking programme at the dinner is in the charge of Mrs. J. D. Farrell, who has not completed the full list of speakers. None of the speeches at the dinner will exceed five minutes, and the entire affair will be in the nature of a jollification affair, with all of a "rob" nature eliminated.

The dinner will begin at 4 o'clock Sunday afternoon and be completed at

8 o'clock. Girls of the Flying Squadron have volunteered to serve as waitresses at the dinner and to distribute the smokes to the men who are leaving.

A parade will follow the dinner, with possibly a demonstration at Liberty Temple, winding up at the Union Depot, where the men must report at 7 o'clock.

JITNEY START IS DELAYED

Care Are Expected to Be in Operation by Thursday.

Difficulty in securing bondsmen required by the new bonding act covering operation of motor vehicles delayed the appearance of jitney buses on the streets of Portland. Under announced plans operation was to have begun yesterday, but it is believed by officials of the Chauffeurs' Union that cars will not be in operation before Thursday.

As yet no licenses under the new law have been issued by the city, although it is understood that 100 cars will be put into service by one company, under the provision that one firm may operate 10 or more cars under a bond of \$10,000.

SCHOOL HEAD FACES TRIAL

Jesse Davis Accused of Misappropriating District Funds.

KLAMATH FALLS, Or., May 27.—(Special.)—The trial of Jesse Davis, former member of the School Board at Crescent, on a charge of malfeasance in office, commenced this morning in the Circuit Court. Davis is accused of misappropriating funds belonging to the school district while in office. The case has caused unusual interest in the northern end of the country and is being followed closely by residents of that section.

Several members of the jury were selected today.

ESKIMO LANGUAGE BANNED

Children of Far North Adopt English in United States.

SEATTLE, Wash., May 26.—Eskimo children are urged not to speak their native language in the United States Government native school building at Kotzebue, an Arctic Ocean point in Northwestern Alaska, according to the Eskimo, a native school publication issued at Nome.

"A school republic has been organized at Kotzebue," the paper says, "Each Friday the officers report how many times each child has spoken Eskimo in the school building."

THREE WIVES ASK LIBERTY

Irma May Tooley Wants to Rid Herself of Slacker Husband.

Irma May Tooley wants to rid herself of her slacker husband, she says in a suit for divorce filed yesterday in the Circuit Court. Her husband, Charles Tooley, is now serving a six-months' sentence in the County Jail, having been convicted of making a false affidavit in an effort to procure deferred classification under the selective draft. He had some woman other than his wife sign an affidavit that Tooley was the sole support of his wife.

Mrs. Tooley alleges that her husband has refused to provide for her from the day of their marriage at Vancouver, March 18, 1916. She was finally compelled to leave him and seek work in order to live.

Ethel Johnson wants a divorce from Albert Johnson and \$40 a month for the support of their two children. They were married in Portland in 1907. She

charges extreme cruelty and willful neglect.

Katie Bosley says that George Bos-

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ley even objected to buying milk for their baby. Other acts of alleged cruelty are cited in her plea for a divorce. They were married in Portland in 1916. She asks for \$30 a month for the support of their child.

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