

BISHOP IS TARGET IN MORRISON CASE

Rt. Rev. Mr. Sumner's Motive
in Suit Attacked.

CHURCH ROWS ARE AIRED

Preacher Testifies That He
Slammed Door After Talk With
Head of Diocese.

Well under way with its case, the defense in the suit of the board of school trustees of the Episcopal diocese of Oregon against Dr. A. A. Morrison directed its attacks yesterday straight against Bishop Walter Taylor Sumner, official diocesan head, and witnesses were used to develop the theory of the defense that the action is one that has its basis in pique and the ambition of Bishop Sumner to rule the diocese with an iron hand.

Mrs. W. D. Wheelwright, active in Trinity church work for years, gave testimony showing that Bishop Sumner had been in Oregon but a short while when he began attacking Dr. Morrison. This, too, while Bishop Sumner was a guest at Dr. Morrison's home.

Church Affairs Discussed.
Mrs. Wheelwright testified that early in 1915 Bishop Sumner came to Portland, and as he was not then married he accepted hospitality offered him by Dr. and Mrs. Morrison and became their guest.

The witness, with other members of Trinity congregation active in church work, sought to make things pleasant for the new bishop, and various topics became subjects of conversation between them. Among other things, church matters were discussed.

Mrs. Wheelwright said Bishop Sumner said to her and her sister at one time that he had found the affairs of the diocese in rotten shape, due to mismanagement by the late Bishop Scadding, and that he was going to clean house in the diocese right away.

First of all, the witness testified he said, he was going to start in with Trinity church and get rid of Dr. Morrison. Later it was said Bishop Sumner had a similar talk, in which these statements were repeated, with Mrs. Wheelwright's sister.

Defense Theory Aired.
It is the theory of the defense, as announced yesterday, that Bishop Sumner sought to obtain Trinity church for his pro-cathedral, and along that line of reasoning evidence was introduced to show canonical law as to the procedure to be followed in the event that Dr. Morrison had resigned as rector of Trinity church. It had already been said by the defense, through other witnesses, that, had Dr. Morrison been willing to resign his office, the present litigation against him would have been dropped.

It was shown yesterday that in the event of a vacancy at Trinity, Bishop Sumner would submit a list of members of the clergy to the vestry of Trinity church and ask them to select a selection. Should the men on the list not be deemed suitable, the bishop would then supply another selection from his own list. In any event, the bishop would name Dr. Morrison's successor indirectly.

Minister on Stand.
Rev. P. K. Hammond, on the stand yesterday, told of a heated interview with Bishop Sumner on the land deal now under fire in court. He admitted he became so heated that he went out of the room and slammed the door behind him.

It was in 1915, he testified, that he was told to go and see Bishop Sumner. The bishop began an indirect inquiry, which the witness surmised was intended to ferret out the opinion of Rev. Mr. Hammond upon the duties of the trustees in respect to the purchase of the school land.

He said he asked Bishop Sumner if that were what he was driving at. The bishop replied that it was.

"Then why don't you come out and say so?" he said he asked bluntly. "There is nothing to conceal on that transaction. Bishop Scadding was in favor of the deal, we were all for it. The trustees knew just what was to be done. I myself asked Dr. Morrison directly if he had any interest in the land deal and he told me he expected to have. Bishop Scadding knew of that."

Good Faith Alleged.
"Take care that you do not besmirch the reputation of Bishop Scadding," Bishop Sumner was said to have replied.

"No, there is no possibility of doing so," was the reply. "We all acted in good faith in the matter."

Bishop Sumner was said to have replied to the effect that all of those involved seemed tarred with the same brush, that they appeared to have been in cahoots on it.

Rev. Mr. Hammond admitted he became much heated and rose from his chair and declared that neither Bishop Sumner nor Archangel Gabriel could accuse him of wrongdoing, and that he left the room and slammed the door behind him.

Letter Is Quoted.
The witness said he had a letter from Bishop Scadding in 1918 in which the church head told Rev. Mr. Hammond he thought the church authorities would make no mistake in acquiring the property in mind for school purposes.

Rev. Mr. Hammond was later sought out by attorneys representing both sides in the proposed suit against Dr. Morrison, and each asked him for a statement as to what transpired in the land purchase. He testified he wrote out a statement and gave a copy of the same declaration to each side and kept one copy himself.

George C. Burton, another witness for the defense yesterday, skilled as a land appraiser because his company lent money on lands, testified he was familiar with the tract in question and that he had known its characteristics for the last 20 years.

He said he had known four tracts of it from Dr. Morrison, representing the Walnut Grove company, the land having been acquired from Bland Herries, and the church property cut off from the orchard tract exploited by the company.

Appraiser Values Land.
Mr. Burton later sold his land for \$175 an acre, some pine trees having been planted upon five acres meanwhile. He testified his opinion on values was asked when the purchase by the church was made and he valued the land at \$15,000, it being stated by him at that time the school trustees were not buying a farm but a suitable site for a boys school, with numerous available buildings and other improvements already upon the place. It was upon that basis that he arrived at his valuation, he said.

Thomas Withycombe, brother of

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MRS. AGEE IS ARRAIGNED

WOMAN TO PLEAD TO CHARGE
OF MURDER JUNE 28.

Defendant Sits in Court Beside
James Anderson, Accused of
Killing Wife.

Garbed in a black suit with white collar and a dark straw hat with a heavy mourning veil that hid her face from curious persons who filled the courtroom, Mrs. Ann Louise Agee was arraigned yesterday afternoon before Judge Kavanaugh.

She stood up when her name was called and heard the indictment charging her with murder in the first degree read by Joseph L. Hammarley, chief deputy district attorney. She was asked, merely, if her true name were set forth in the indictment, and she murmured "yes," nodding her head.

She was asked if John Collier, who appeared in court with her, were her attorney and again she nodded.

Attorney Collier stated to the court he had not had opportunity to discuss the case with his client and asked that a suitable interim be allowed in which to enter a plea. Judge Kavanaugh set June 28, at 10 A. M., for Mrs. Agee to plead at that time.

The accused woman was escorted to and from the courtroom by two deputy sheriffs who brought her downstairs from the county jail and returned her there. She was accompanied by D. J. Swing, her father, who came to Portland from his home in Missouri to be with her until the case is cleared up.

Mr. Swing sat on one side of her, while on the other sat James T. Anderson, also in court to plead to a murder charge, that of having killed his wife with an ax several weeks ago. He, too, has been indicted for murder in the first degree.

SUIT INVOLVES CONTRACT

Construction Company Asks \$25,000 Damages for Alleged Breach.

Suit to compel the payment of \$25,000 damages was instituted yesterday by the Newport Construction company against A. E. Porter, M. J. Conley and Ellis McLean.

It is alleged the defendants had a contract for grading the Columbia river highway across Sherman county in September, 1919, and that the plaintiff and the defendant Conley took a sub-contract on the work. It was arranged, the complaint alleges, that defendants to the suit agreed to bid on a surfacing contract on the same job and that the work was to be performed by the plaintiff and Conley jointly.

The company filing the suit alleges the contract was awarded to the defendants, but that they refused to permit the plaintiff and Conley to perform the work as agreed. Had they done so, it is contended a profit of \$50,000 would have been made by the two and the plaintiff asks for a court judgment for half that sum.

POULTRY EXPERT COMING

Specialist to Discuss Questions at Series of Meetings.

Professor H. E. Crosby, poultry specialist, will be one of the principal speakers at the poultry demonstration meetings to be held at the four poultry demonstration farms in the county June 28 and 29, and will discuss the problems in poultry production uppermost at this time of the year. One of the principal problems to be taken up will be that of feeding and caring for young stock that they come into profitable production at the right time. Such time as can be spared during the meetings will be utilized in visiting other poultry farms and studying the plans used on these farms.

The meeting places are as follows: Mrs. Anna Schiller farm, half mile east of Gresham, 10 A. M., June 28; A. L. Davies farm, Springdale, on the Columbia highway, 2 P. M., June 28; C. N. Taylor farm, Pleasant View avenue, one-half mile south of Lineman station, at 10 A. M., June 29; D. B. Sedel farm, Buckley avenue, one-half mile south of Base Line road, 2 P. M., June 29.

Cherry Crop Shows Decrease.

WHITE SALMON, Wash., June 21. (Special.)—The cherry crop, which looked very promising early in the season, it was estimated, because of cold rains and a couple of heavy frosts during the blossom season, would harvest only one-quarter of a crop.

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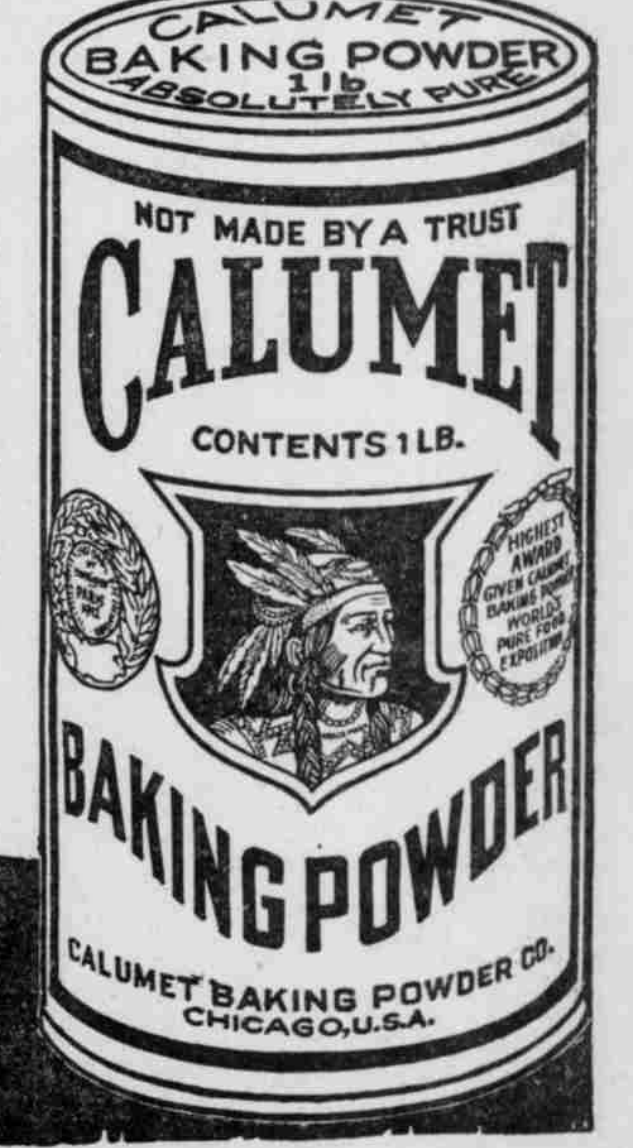
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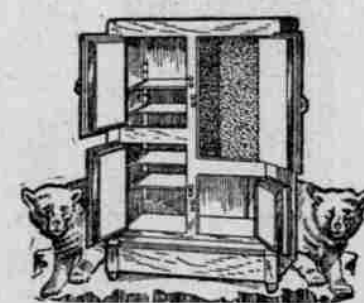
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