



BELDING NOT INSANE

Inquest Proves Him to Be Mentally Sound.

FIRED SHOTS AT HIS LITTLE SON

New Facts Brought to Light by Official Investigation Into the Frenzied Crime of Friday Night.

Belding, the murderer of the McCroskeys and Woodward, is sane, and will answer for his crime. His air of bravado has by no means been diminished by his first night in jail.

Circumstances relating to the cold-blooded murder at the northeast corner of Fifth and Flinders, when Mrs. McCroskey, Mrs. Belding and Frank Woodward were shot and killed by A. L. Belding, were considered last night by a jury empaneled by Coroner Finley.

The jury were: T. J. Craig, Pat Munroe, W. Whitwell, W. W. Rath, G. Andrews and A. B. Stewart. The first witness called was Fred McCroskey, who stated that he knew the stranger who was shot on the McCroskey porch as "Gyp."

"Where Belding Got His Gun." "Belding is my brother-in-law," testified E. Noreen, who keeps a saloon at Fourteenth and Marshall streets.

"I have seen him drunk before. At the city jail Belding spoke to the others who were there as well as to myself. I have known Belding about 17 years, but he has only been employed at my place for seven or eight weeks."

Sergeant Church produced the two revolvers with which Belding killed his victims, and showed conclusively that when Belding used the latter weapon of the two that all the cartridges had already been fired, in his excitement.

THREE VICTIMS OF BELDING'S BULLETS.



Mrs. A. L. Belding. (Dead). Mrs. Lemuel McCroskey. (Dead). Lemuel McCroskey. (Seriously wounded.)

Belding. "Shortly after 3 o'clock Friday night I heard what I at first thought was the noise made by the explosion of a fire-cracker. Other reports followed, and I ran to Fifth and Flinders streets. A man painted Belding out to me as the man who had done the shooting, and Belding said: 'I did the shooting, and I left the other gun in the house, at the same time throwing a revolver on the street. This would be about 8:45 o'clock. Belding talked about the trouble and said: 'I shot at Gyp. Then a woman came running out of the house. I don't know whether it was my wife or Mrs. McCroskey, but I shot at her and then at the other woman. Then old man McCroskey came out, and I plugged him and we clinched. I would have liked to kill everybody by the name of McCroskey. At the city jail the witness asked me for my gun; he still wanted to kill one more McCroskey.'

"When I got to the McCroskey house Sergeant Church handed Belding to me, testing detective Snow. Belding acted as if he were drunk, and said that if he had had a Winchester he would have killed them all. He also stated that he watched his chance as the little boy went into the house, and then shot the four people, killing three. He said: 'I just shot at everybody who moved in that house, and then I went into the Lake Charles saloon and had a drink with another man. Belding at the police station gloried in his deed.'

Then Eddie Belding, the 6-year-old son of the murderer, went to the witness chair. He is a greatly intelligent-looking boy, with a peachy complexion and fair hair.

Story of Murderer's Son. "Do you know what it is to tell the truth, my boy?" asked Mr. Spencer. "Yes, I do," said the little fellow, nodding his head.

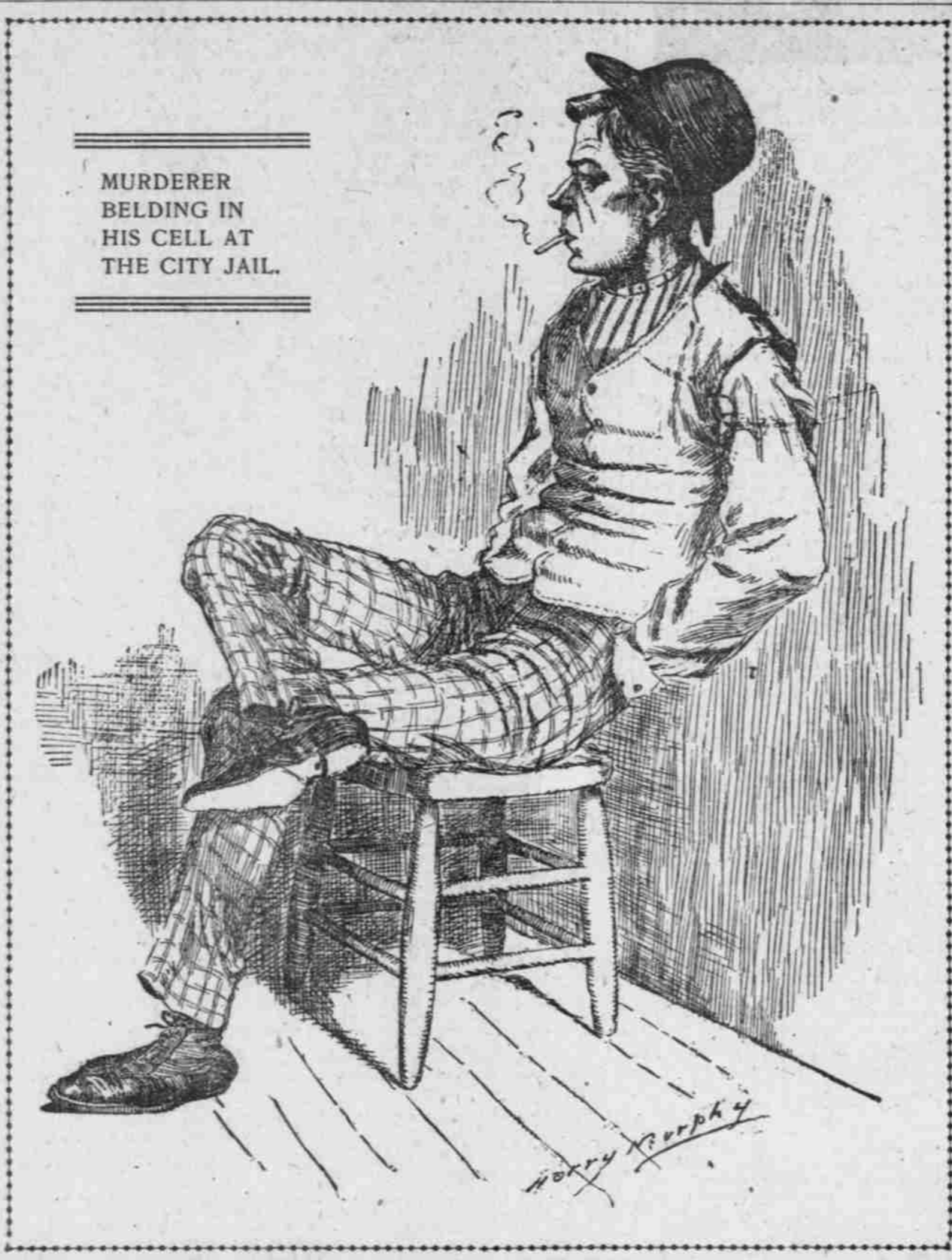
Charles S. May, hawker, stated he thought that Woodward, who was a dealer in horses, was either born in Seattle or some town in California. "A few weeks ago," he said, "I got a telegram message from Woodward's mother, asking about him, and I don't remember where the message came from. Woodward told me that he was going home either Sunday or Monday. I thought Belding and Woodward were very friendly, as it was only the other day they drove to Mount Tabor together. A short time ago Belding threatened me with a gun, but he did not do any shooting."

The autopsy showed that the two women were killed by being shot through the lungs, and that Woodward's fatal wound came from the bullet that entered his brain.

Belding still is cool. Belding was comparatively cheerful in his cell yesterday, and he wore his most reckless air. When told that there was a prospect of his father-in-law's recovery, due to the fact that the bullet fired hit McCroskey's watch, Belding worked himself into a rage and said: "I gave him that watch. And to think that the same watch stopped my bullet. I wish I had given him that watch, damn it." It was stated at the Good Samaritan Hospital last night that there was every prospect that McCroskey would recover in a short time, unless complications arise.

CANT EXPLAIN DEED. E. P. McCroskey Says Belding Had No Sufficient Motive. E. P. McCroskey, a brother of the unfortunate woman who was slain by her husband Friday night, is very indignant over certain reports that have been circulated relative to his sister. When seen last evening, McCroskey said: "Belding was mad at my sister because she refused to give him money. During their seven years of married life, the wretch did not support my sister, and at times beat her nearly to death. His cry of jealousy is simply nonsense, as he did not care a straw for his wife. His murder of my mother was a most brutal act, committed just because he was angry at my sister. My married sister, who lives in Milwaukee, often urged Mrs. Belding to leave her brutal husband, and for this reason the fiend wished to slay the whole family. He was very mad at all of us, but I do not think he is insane. I believe he would have murdered me had I been in the house, as he asked an officer at the police station for a gun with which to shoot me. I have often given this fellow money, and helped him in many ways, and other members of the family were kind to him. This is the way he repays us."

Interpellation Postponed. PARIS, July 12.—The Chamber of Deputies by a vote of 238 to 218 postponed an interpellation on the order just issued by Premier Combes to the prefects of all the departments to give notice to the religious orders which have not yet complied with the law of associations that unless they are dissolved within six days from today their establishments will be forcibly closed. This order applies to all schools of unauthorized congregations.



ELKS PLAN BIG FAIR

Street Carnival Project Gathers Enthusiasm.

MIDWAY SHOW TO BE A FEATURE

General Manager Rowe is Negotiating for Novel Attractions—Canvass for Funds Will Be Pushed to Completion This Week.

With the election of officers and the perfection of the organization of the Elks' Carnival Association, the September street fair project is going ahead at a rapid rate. President George E. Chamberlain and General Manager E. W. Rowe, with the assistance of Vice-President D. Solis Cohen, Secretary, Alex. Sweek, Treasurer Ralph W. Hoyt and the members of the general committee, have taken hold of the project with enthusiasm, and announce their intention of surpassing not only the successful street carnival of 1900, but any similar undertaking for the purpose of entertaining the public. Negotiations are now in progress for the engagement of one of the greatest midway shows in the United States, and within a few days announcements will be made as to the character of the attractions. The next meeting of the general committee will be held Monday night, and an effort will be made at that time to close the contract as well as settle the site question.

Under the active direction of B. B. Rich, the work of raising the \$1000 fund goes merrily on. The support that the merchants and other business men of the city are giving to the enterprise is liberal, and the question of completing the guarantee is simply one of covering the business field of the city. Chairman Rich has announced the following sub-committees that will assist him in soliciting: Banks and transportation companies—General G. Summers; Wholesale liquor dealers and breweries—John Kelly, F. T. Merrill and John Erickson; Cigar stores, restaurants and cafes—Charles Malarky, John Lamont and M. G. Myers; Wholesale and commission merchants—Harry Beck and Carlos Unna; Retail merchants—Otto Windfelder and A. N. Gambell; Barbers—L. Wintner and George Ribbecke; Butchers—John Driscoll; Liveries—J. Harvey O'Bryan; Printers—W. M. Davis.

WAR ON RAILROADS

Will Republican Convention Make Them an Issue?

M'BRIDE'S FRIENDS FEEL GOOD

Six Counties Make Nominations and Elect Delegates—Many of Them on Record in Favor of the Governor's Policy.

OLYMPIA, Wash., July 12.—Republican conventions have been held in six counties of the state up to the present time, and in the platforms and resolutions adopted by these conventions the support of Governor McBride's railroad policy, which threatens to become a burning issue in Washington politics, claim to see cause for jubilation. The counties that have held conventions are: Walla Walla, King, Whitman, Asotin, Garfield and Lincoln, having a total representation in the state convention of 170. Of these 170 delegates the friends of the railroad commission and anti-pass plank claim that at least 100 will vote for a railroad commission and anti-pass plank in the state platform. Walla Walla County, with 21 delegates, is conceded to the railroad interests, the convention in that county having cast aspersions on the friends of the commission and adopted a resolution favoring a lower freight rate bill. King County, with 50 delegates, took no action on the railroad question, but 45 of the delegates were named by Harold Preston, King County's candidate for United States Senator and Governor McBride's personal friend, while the other 5 were selected by Will E. Humphrey, King County's candidate for Congressman. All of the delegates selected by Mr. Preston are supposed to be heart and soul with the Governor on the railroad question, but it is claimed that Mr. Humphrey attempted to select men who were equally loyal to the railroads. The truth of this claim is apparent from the presence on the list of delegates of the names of such men as Will H. Thompson and E. H. Gals, of Seattle, both of whom are well-known railroad attorneys. In spite of the alleged efforts of Mr. Humphrey, the friends of the McBride policy are claiming a good majority of the delegation, the usual figure being given at 90 votes.

Other Anti-Railroad Counties. Garfield County, with seven delegates, Asotin, with six delegates, and Lincoln, with 13 delegates, have each adopted resolutions favoring the policy of Governor McBride and instructing their delegates to the state convention to favor a commission and anti-pass plank in the platform. While these three counties are small in representation, their course is looked upon as indicating the general trend of sentiment in Eastern Washington, and is especially significant in view of the action taken in Walla Walla County. One convention whose acts have created a great deal of comment was the Whitman County convention, held July 7. Prior to the holding of the convention the announcement of the defeat for re-election in the primaries of State Senator Oliver Hall, who was a staunch supporter

of the McBride policy, was considered an indication of weight that Whitman would take the same action as Walla Walla County on the railroad question. Furthermore, Whitman County was looked upon as being under the control of the friends of Levi Ankeny, while the action of Walla Walla County was regarded as being a reflex of Mr. Ankeny's sentiments on the railroad question. As a matter of fact, it is not denied that the Ankeny men were in supreme control of the Whitman County convention up to the introduction of the resolutions. Ankeny men were named as candidates for the Legislature, and Ankeny men were named as delegates to the state convention. But when it came to the resolutions the Whitman County farmers, who have so long clamored for better freight rates, stampeded in favor of the railroad commission, and furthermore passed a resolution instructing the candidates for the Legislature from that county, if elected, to support no man for United States Senator who is not in sympathy with the McBride policy. In view of the personal feelings of the state delegates and the candidates for the Legislature, there are men to be found throughout the state, and a good many of them, who do not place much dependence on the resolutions of the Whitman County convention being carried out. They believe that Whitman County's course will depend wholly on the continuation of the present decided sentiment among the farmers there in regard to the railroad commission.

McBride People Satisfied. As to the probable action of other counties on the railroad question, the McBride people are expressing the highest confidence in securing a majority of the delegates from west of the mountains, when they take the results of the Eastern Washington conventions so far held as presaging strong support from that portion of the state for the embodiment of the Governor's ideas in the state platform. However, of Eastern Washington Counties, Columbia, with 10 votes, is expected to follow the course of Walla Walla, Kilkittat and Kittitas are doubtful, and Spokane is uncertain, the McBride people are hoping for at least a majority of the 48 delegates therefrom. In Western Washington there are several counties that may be expected to jump either way. They have no railroads, and therefore take little interest in the question. They are: Mason with seven delegates, Chelan with eight, Island with four, Kitsap with 10, San Juan with eight and Jefferson with eight. It is probable that some of these counties and perhaps several others in the state will follow King County's plan and send their delegates to the convention unpledged and will instruct their candidates for the Legislature in the railroad matter. This will likely not only result in a splitting of the votes of such counties, but practically puts the question up to the state convention without a great amount of preliminary skirmishing. There will be 57 delegates assembled at the state convention, and it is a considerable number, considering that as is now indicated, the railroad question will become a most interesting issue. The delegates are divided among counties as follows:

Table listing delegates by county: Adams 6, Asotin 6, Benton 6, Bellingham 6, Blaine 6, Bonanza 6, Bristow 6, Buckhorn 6, Burns 6, Cascade 6, Cowlitz 6, Douglas 6, Ferry 6, Franklin 6, Garfield 6, Grant 6, Grays Harbor 6, Harney 6, Jefferson 8, King 50, Kittitas 11, Klickitat 11, Lincoln 13, Lewis & Clark 6, Mason 7, Okanogan 6, Pacific 10, Pierce 6, Polk 6, Rainier 6, Skagit 6, Skamania 6, St. Helens 6, Tillamook 12, Union 6, Waiilatpu 6, Walla Walla 21, Wasco 6, Wahkiakum 6, Wascow 6, Wheeler 6, Willamette 6, Yamhill 6, Total 471.

ACTIVITY OF PEELE.

Several Violent Eruptions in the Past Week.

PARIS, July 12.—The Colonial Ministry has issued the following: "A fresh eruption of Mount Pelee occurred during the morning of July 11. It was quite as violent as the one of not previous day, and was marked by loud detonations, followed by showers of stones and cinders, which fell on the communes of Basse Pointe, Morne Rouge and Fonds St. Denis. The population remained calm. There was no loss of life. The scientific mission which left Guadeloupe on receipt of the news of the fresh eruption, has arrived at Fort St. Pierre. In his report to the Minister of the Colonies on the eruption of Mount Pelee the evening of July 9, M. L'Huerra, the Governor of Martinique, says the outbreak of same set fire to the ruins of St. Pierre, and that for 25 minutes stone and cinders rained on the communes of Morne Rouge and Fonds St. Denis. The inhabitants of Morne Rouge fled, and panic prevailed in other places, but there were no fatalities.

Steam From Soufriere.

KINGSTOWN, St. Vincent, Thursday, July 10.—The English scientific commission, headed by Dr. Anderson and Pitt, who, after investigating the various phenomena connected with the eruption of the Soufriere volcano here, left for the island of St. Pierre, where the Indian ports, noticed that the eruption was seemingly quiet. Last night, however, three distinct detonations were heard, here, and at Barbados an immense cloud of steam burst from the Soufriere. This phenomenon was preceded by earthquakes during the past three days, which were felt all over the colony.

Rhine Overflows Its Banks.

GENEVA, Switzerland, July 12.—The Rhine has broken through the river wall at Illars, embourging the plain between Villonaz and Evougray. The railroad line above and below the town of Evougray was destroyed and the railroad station there has been abandoned. The overflowing of the river has submerged villages and washed out crops. Bridges and houses have been destroyed in all directions. The inhabitants of the locality are frantically engaged in cutting the river embankments to relieve the flood and save their property.

SHORTS PLAN COUP

Ask for a "Margined Price" on July Corn.

MOVE TO BEAT GATES' CROWD

Rules Provide for Action, But Such a Step Has Not Been Taken in 20 Years—Termed a "Baby Act" by Big Bull.

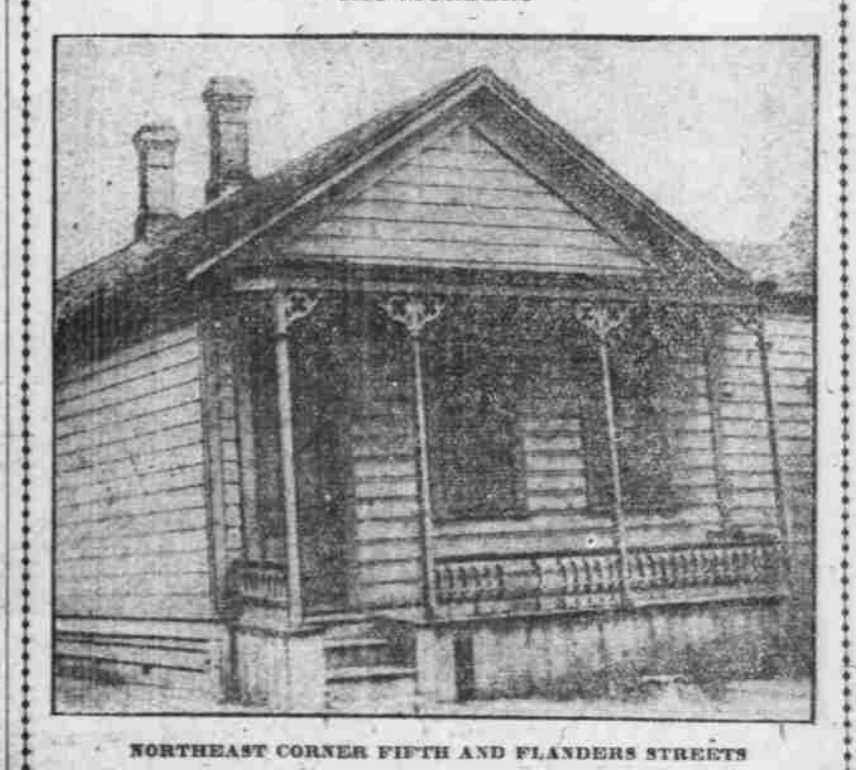
CHICAGO, July 12.—A petition was handed to Secretary Stone, of the Board of Trade today, asking that a "margined price" be fixed on July corn, which has been cornered by a party headed by John W. Gates. The meaning of the petition is that the directors proceed to fix a fair price of corn, based on the selling price of the cereal in markets where the supply is not manipulated. Such a step, it is said, has not been taken in 20 years. The rules provide for such action. Brokers generally are quoted as being opposed to the petition. Manager Samuel Scotton, of Harris, Gates & Co., said: "If they win, all right; if they lose, they act the baby. What we have done with corn hurts no one who had made legitimate trades. People who have sold us corn can get the money when they deliver the goods. If a lot of fellows have sold wind, let them take the consequence." The directors of the Board of Trade have been petitioned also to make No. 2 corn deliverable on contracts for No. 2, the seller to pay the difference between the price of No. 2 and the price of No. 2 as determined by the Board of Directors. The petition will come before the directors for action Monday or Tuesday.

LABOR FOR BETTER WALKS

City Authorizes Endeavor to Replace Wood With Cement.

The past week has been a busy one for the deputies of the City Engineer, who have been called upon to serve a number of notices upon property-owners for the repairing of defective sidewalks. In many of the cases the notices have been readily complied with, but in several instances the repairs have not been made, and an order for them will have to be filed and a lien entered against the property-owner. In the first instance, the notices had no small amount of trouble. Where repairs were necessary some property-owners wanted to relay wooden walks, but as the preventing of damage and decay was greater than that allowed by the Mulkey ordinances, permission was refused. In speaking of his trip through the city an inspector said that many property-owners are inclined to think that wooden walks were cheaper than cement walks, and he tried in vain to convince them of their error. A wooden walk in a climate like that of Oregon would, he said, last about seven years, while a concrete walk would be in good condition at the end of 20 years. Wood would be cheaper for the time being, but in the long run it would be very expensive. He said that the price of sidewalks has been compared with past years, but people he met thought he was soliciting for some cement firm, and refused to listen to him. The Mulkey ordinances, under which the inspector is acting, provide that no wooden sidewalks or crosswalks shall be repaired, reconstructed or altered to an extent greater than one-third of the original cost price on First, Fourth and Fifth streets, from Jefferson to Burnside; Second, from Salmon to Burnside; Third, from Jefferson to Gilliam; Sixth, from Salmon to Johnson, Seventh, Park, West Park and Eighth streets and Park street in Couch's Addition, from Yamhill to Burnside; Jefferson, from First to Fifth; Madison and Main, from Front to Fifth; Salmon and Taylor, from Front to Sixth; Yamhill, from Front to Seventh; Alder, from Front to Chapman; Alder, from Front to Nineteenth; Stark, Oak and Pine, from Front to Seventh; Ash and Ankeny, from Front to Fourth, and Burnside, from Front to Seventh. After the repairs are once made, no further or other repairs shall be made to a sidewalk or crosswalk, and in no event shall the one-third original cost price be used as a basis by which more than an actual one-third of the sidewalk or crosswalk can be repaired.

M'CRSKEY RESIDENCE, WHERE BELDING COMMITTED HIS MURDERS



NORTHEAST CORNER FIFTH AND FLINDERS STREETS