

JENNINGS TAKES TRIAL AS A JOKE

Grins Broadly When Statements of Witnesses Take a Humorous Turn.

MOTHER A PATHETIC FIGURE

Little Woman in Black Follows the Testimony on the Murder of Her Husband With Painful Intensity.

BY W. G. MACRAE

GRANT'S PASS, Or., Jan. 12.—(Staff Correspondence.)—Jasper Jennings, who is being tried for the murder of his father, will take the witness-stand.

Attorney Norton objected to the introducing of these statements, because, he contended, they had been obtained from the prisoner by duress and while he was held a prisoner in the jail and denied every legal claim or the advice of his friends.

When the courtroom doors were thrown open this morning it seemed as if the whole feminine population of Grant's Pass was present. Men, women and children occupied every available seat in the courtroom, stood three and four deep along the sides of the room, and filled the aisle. It was a curious crowd, and it was constantly shifting and moving about for vantage points to study the prisoner.

Face Without Character.

Little good the study of Jennings did them, for, unless his eyes can be seen, the face is without character. He is a blond, and now that he has his mustache shaved off, he would easily pass for a boy 19 years old. He is dressed in a green suit and has the appearance of being proud of the fact that he is the center of attraction.

The enormity of the crime with which he is charged sits lightly on his shoulders. Innocent or guilty, Jasper Jennings sees not the shadow of the gallows confronting him. His close confinement in the jail is an inconvenience, the trial a joke in which he is the center figure, and the murder of his father a circumstance which occasions no grief—not as much as if the poorest canine had been killed.

Seated close at his side in the dingy courtroom is his mother, a frail bit of womanhood dressed in black. All day she watched Jasper and listened intently to the testimony as each witness in turn told his story and wove closer and closer the link of circumstantial evidence around her son. She came here last week from the North Carolina home where she went when she and her husband separated. A stranger happening into the courtroom and not knowing that Jasper Jennings was on trial would be almost led to believe it was the little woman in black whose fate was in the balance.

Smiles Are Checked.

Jasper appears indifferent to the testimony offered, and he smiled several times when some of the state's witnesses testified. His attitude did not change until the testimony of L. B. Wickersham, superintendent of the Granite Hill mine, was given, which went to prove that when Newton Jennings was murdered he was asleep with his back to the door; that the person who held the rifle must have stepped into the room and fired the shot, and not through the door. In this testimony the state gave an inkling of the approval in his fight to be named the killer of the father.

Mr. Wickersham stated that when he was called to the Jennings cabin, he found the dead man with the right side of his head partially torn away, that a portion of the brains were deposited on his left breast. The brains, as the witnesses testified, must have been placed there, and the testimony went far to bear out the contention of the District Attorney that Jennings' body had been moved after he had been killed.

Body Handled After Murder.

The state has gone on the theory that after the shot was fired the body was turned over and left facing the door, so as to create the impression that the shot had been fired through the door. The course that the bullet took and the fact that when Jennings was found the front part of his face on the right side was torn away by the bullet go far toward proving that the murdered man was shot from behind. The bullet was found lodged in the pillow, and in spite of the fact that it had passed through the feathers in the pillow it is alleged hair was found still clinging to the flattened part of the bullet.

Whitley Guilty of Manslaughter.

NORTH YAKIMA, Wash., Jan. 12.—(Special.)—The case of Joe Whitley, colored, who was tried here this week on a charge of killing Edwin Curtis, a white man, at Topsham last summer, went to the jury at 2:30 this afternoon. The evidence developed up through the trial met Curtis on the street near the drug store of W. L. Shearer, of Topsham, and after a few words Whitley pulled out a revolver and shot Curtis three times.

There were several eyewitnesses, and they all say that Curtis was unarmed and made no defense. The defendant attempted to shoot the witness, but in self-defense Curtis had a knife in his sleeve and had made a move toward him when he fired the deadly shots. The whole case was consumed in the trial of the case.

Fled With the Bald Bugler

SEATTLE, Wash., Jan. 12.—(Special.)—To the glad shouting of hallelujahs, the sounding of cymbals and the clashing of brasses, the fire of love was kindled and grew into three flames in the hearts of Edna Powell, aged 25, a member of the Spokane Salvation Army corps, and Bugler Restall, aged 49 and bald, of the same corps. The matter was reported to the police by Rev. H. D. Brown, of 1948 Eighth avenue West, pastor of the Church of the Nazarene.

Expenses Refused Assessor

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RAILROAD ON THE TANANA

Articles of Incorporation of Alaska Road Filed at Olympia.

MURDERED HER INFANT

Husband, Convicted Jointly With Her, Committed Suicide in the Stevens County Jail After Sentence Had Been Pronounced.

Many Defects in the Plant.

CENTRALIA, Wash., Jan. 12.—(Special.)—A committee of representative business men visited the Centralia water plant Saturday afternoon, with a view of arriving at some conclusion for the improvement of the system. Many defects were found in the plant and boiler-room and the gentlemen, Wednesday 2 E. Leas, Theodore Hoss, P. T. McNitt, William Scaler, J. R. Burton, George Miller, Dan Salzer, William Christensen, L. Bar and E. A. Courneyer, are now preparing a plan to submit to the Centralia Council next week.

A suggestion that the city should put in its own water supply system probably be made. If this is not taken up, local business men may form a stock company to buy out the Centralia Water Supply Company.

KILLS FRIED IN SCUFFLE

HERBERT HEIDEL, OF HILLSBORO, OVERCOME WITH GRIEF.

Corner of Counter in Freestone Is Forced into Abdomen of H. L. Hartrampf.

HILLSBORO, Jan. 12.—(Special.)—Henry L. Hartrampf, aged 21 years, died in this city at 11:20 today, the result of injuries received while in a friendly scuffle with an employe, Herbert Heidel, of Hillsboro.

The young man had been wrestling in Hartrampf's feed store Wednesday, and Hartrampf had returned to the office and was leaning over the right angle corner of the counter when the Heidelberg boy in a spirit of play, jumped on his back. The sharp edge of the counter corner inflicted a fatal abdominal wound.

The young man was a general favorite and was succeeding finely in business. He was a son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Hartrampf, estimable people, who reside in North Hillsboro.

The Heidelberg boy is nearly prostrated with grief, but no one attaches any particular blame to him, as it appears to have been an unavoidable accident.

ALL PRECEDENT IS UPSET

Date of Seattle Republican Convention Is Set Ahead.

SEATTLE, Wash., Jan. 12.—(Special.)—The Republican city central committee today changed the date of the city convention from the 15th of February, to be in a better position to meet the attacks of the Municipal Ownership Convention, which will assemble next Saturday.

The appointment will be one delegate for every 1000 votes cast at the last municipal convention, and there will be no allotment of delegates-at-large. In addition four delegates are allowed the First Ward for each precinct.

Mr. Corbin's factory has a capacity of 30,000 tons of beets annually, and so far has been able to secure but 20,000 tons, or one-half of the capacity of the plant. The price paid the farmers for a ton of beets is \$2.50, but Mr. Corbin can not get more than the line of the Spokane and Inland road to plant 6000 acres annually he will pay them 35 per cent.

The farmers of Garfield are pleased with the proposal, and Mr. McGilvray, who is a prominent farmer, says he believes a large acreage will be planted here this season. Senator McCroskey said: "I am considering the proposal and may plant 100 acres as an experiment." Many other prominent agriculturists are getting interested and it is expected that a large acreage will be planted along the line of the electric road.

CAMERON IS MADE CHAIRMAN

Walla Walla Republican Committee in Session Behind Closed Doors.

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Chairman Cameron stated this evening that he will announce his executive committee within a few days. Petitions were presented for the appointment of new committeemen in some of the precincts, where the members are reported to have moved. They were referred to the chairman and the new executive committee is under consideration. The new chairman is a lifelong friend of Senator Ankeny.

Miss Lauman Wins Prize

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PRISONER DAYS OPEN

Mrs. Niese Pardoned After Ten Years in Penitentiary.

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Husband, Convicted Jointly With Her, Committed Suicide in the Stevens County Jail After Sentence Had Been Pronounced.

Many Defects in the Plant.

CENTRALIA, Wash., Jan. 12.—(Special.)—Mrs. Hattie Niese, principal in a murder case that was a state-wide sensation in 1882 and 1883, was paroled by Governor Mead today after she had served about 16 years' actual time in the penitentiary. Mrs. Niese and her husband murdered their infant child in Stevens County in 1885, its death being caused by brutal tortures. Both were convicted of murder in the second degree. Niese committed suicide in the Stevens County jail after sentence had been passed on her. Her husband was sentenced to 20 years at hard labor, and with good time allowance, her term would have expired in two years, 14 months and 13 days from the date of her parole.

The woman, who is a German, has been an excellent prisoner, but her mental condition is not of the best, and the likelihood that longer imprisonment would produce insanity was one of the reasons for granting the parole. Another influence of weight with the Governor was a letter written by Jesse Arthur, a neighbor, Judge, who is now practicing law in Battle Creek, Mich.

Judge Arthur says he has not the slightest doubt but that Mrs. Niese, at her parole, is in the custody of her child and was equally responsible with her husband for his death. He expresses the opinion that she was of weak mind and "character" and was completely dominated by her husband. In this consideration and believing that ten years was sufficient punishment for her, he signed her application.

The Governor also granted parole to Aquilar Justus, sentenced in Chehalis County, January, 1904, to five years for robbery. Justus is a son of legal age, and this was his first crime.

BEETS MAY BE RAISED.

Garfield Farmers Are Shown Benefits to the Soil.

GARFIELD, Wash., Jan. 12.—(Special.)—The farmers of Garfield field an enthusiastic meeting at Hart's hotel, tonight, when the Mayor McClure presided, with R. C. McCroskey as secretary. Addresses were made by Mr. Larson, manager of the Corbin beet sugar factory at Walla Walla, and Mr. McGilvray, Mr. Haynes and A. D. Thayer, of Wavely. The object of the meeting was to interest the Garfield farmers in raising sugar beets.

Two of the speakers, who are practical farmers, were wheelbarrows for many years, for the past six years they have raised sugar beets and they declare they have made a profit of \$1000 per acre, more than twice what wheat, besides keeping their land in a higher state of cultivation and free from weeds. They said that by planting beets in the fall, they could get a much larger crop of wheat would be produced the next season.

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Don't mistake our meaning. In urging you to save we don't want you to become stingy or miserly. Spend what is reasonably necessary, but remember that you may get sick or lose your position. Then you will realize the value of a savings account.

WE PAY 4% INTEREST

OREGON TRUST & SAVINGS BANK

Sixth and Morrison Streets

OFFICERS

W. H. MOORE, President. E. E. LITTLE, Vice-President. W. COOPER MORRIS, Cashier.

W. H. Moore, E. E. Little, Leo Friede, W. H. Cooper, W. Cooper Morris.

Money to attend the state meeting of the Assessors of Washington to the State Tax Commission. A majority of the Board of Commissioners for Walla Walla County are Democrats, and they recently flatly refused to pay the expenses of the Assessor to Olympia.

The meeting of the Assessors has been called by the Tax Commission, which has general supervision over the assessment and taxation affairs in the state, and Assessor Berryman notified the Commission that as the Board of County Commissioners did not wish to pay the expenses of the trip he did not feel like attending.

The Tax Commission wrote the County Commissioners, and the letter was made public here today. Among other things the letter says:

"We are not prepared to believe that you would indulge in a penny-wise policy where the benefits to be obtained are so great as in this case. But, however, if you still persist in this idea, after our assurance to you of the importance of having your County Assessor here, the responsibility of your county coming out of the pocket of the State Board of Equalization must rest with you."

It is understood to be the intention of the State Tax Commission to secure an equitable assessment, and they allege the only way to do this is to hold a meeting of all the Assessors and secure an agreement from each that a certain basis of taxation will be used in making the 1906 assessment.

There promises to be a clash between the Commission and the County Commissioners, as the Summer is over on taxation matters.

EUGENE TO HAVE Y. M. C. A.

Building to Cost \$25,000 Will Be Erected This Summer.

EUGENE, Or., Jan. 12.—(Special.)—Articles of incorporation of the Young Men's Association of Eugene were filed with County Clerk, this afternoon. The incorporators are: Samuel Rouse, P. L. Campbell and F. L. Chambers, and the objects and business as set forth in the articles are as follows:

"The spiritual, intellectual, social and physical welfare of young men, and to that end the object of the corporation shall be to buy, own, sell and mortgage real estate, to purchase, own, erect, construct, manage, operate and maintain suitable buildings in which to conduct religious, athletic, swimming, dancing, and any other things necessary, suitable or convenient to carry the foregoing purpose into effect."

The building committee, which has been listing names of contributors, has been successful, and sufficient funds are now pledged to insure the success of the association. It is the intention immediately to secure plans for a fine building to cost in the neighborhood of \$25,000. The building will be completed during the coming Summer, and will be modern in every particular, and supply all demands for years to come.

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January Clearance Sale

If you have been looking for bargains in men's clothes, here they are; nothing reserved; everything goes, including the staples; blue serges and black unfinished worsteds.

\$12.50 Suit, Overcoat or Raincoat reduced to \$ 9.50

\$18.00 Suit, Overcoat or Raincoat reduced to \$14.50

\$25.00 Suit, Overcoat or Raincoat reduced to \$19.75

\$30.00 Suit, Overcoat or Raincoat reduced to \$24.50

Sam'l Rosenblatt & Co.

Corner Third and Morrison Streets

PAYS UP DELINQUENCY

NEW YORK CORPORATION OWNS MUCH OREGON PROPERTY.

Forced by the Law to Pay License Fees, After Long Correspondence With Secretary of State.

SALEM, Or., Jan. 12.—(Special.)—The E. Clemens Hoist Company, which has been incorporated under laws of New Jersey, capital stock, \$100,000; attorney in fact, W. H. Holmes, Salem, Or.

The Michigan Trust Company, incorporated under laws of Michigan; capital stock, \$50,000; attorney in fact, J. F. Booth, Portland, Or.

The Union Pacific grade was constructed in the name of the Portland & Puget Sound Railway Company, and the unpaid claims of the road were assigned to Puget Sound in 1891, the Hill interests are being for record in each county traversed by the right of way transcripts of judgments secured upon assigned claims against the right of way, amounting, with interest and costs, to \$1,957,216.

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