

# MURDER MYSTERY AS DEEP AS EVER

### Scores of Auto Parties to Be Enlisted Today in Hunt for Ristman's Body.

## NEWEST CLEW IS FAILURE

### Grocer Says He Might Identify Passenger of Jitneur, but His Testimony Found Useless in the Face of Other Evidence.

wore shirts with neckbands. A tight neck-band would not bother it if it were not buttoned, that the contention was. Close examination of the shirt showed yesterday that the graphite and grease with which it is smeared is over, not beneath, the blood smears. This is taken to indicate that the murderer, after killing his victim, found trouble in starting the automobile. It is believed that he discovered that the machine in the Jennings driveway, but that it was given up after several ineffectual attempts.

**New Clew Unproductive.** Sheriff Reeves was in Portland yesterday on the trail of an unproductive clew. With City Detective Goltz and Goltz, he investigated the report that a man of whom the jitney driver had purchased gasoline the night of the crime, might be able to identify the passenger.

A man in the J. C. Jellison grocery store asserted that Elzapas had stopped there—1623 Macadam road—to get gasoline about 6 o'clock Monday night, and that the jitney had a passenger he thought he could identify. On cross-questioning, he clung to the assertion that the incident was at 6 o'clock, but as the officers had quite a positive proof that Ristman was paying for a new automobile in Portland at that same hour they came to the conclusion that it could not have been Monday night.

**Detectives Visit Home.** The detectives also visited the home of Thompson on the East Side and thoroughly searched the place. If they found anything of value, they said nothing about it.

It is not unlikely that the jitney men who failed to identify Thompson as Ristman's passenger, when they saw the suspect at the party last night, were taken to Hillsboro for another look. Sheriff Reeves believing they might change their minds. Numerous persons who have reported to the authorities that they saw machines corresponding to Ristman's along points of the route to the jitney home at various times Monday night are being questioned.

Sheriff Reeves took a little more living interest in the investigation yesterday, but the chief work continues to be done by Portland officials. Several deputies from Portland went to the Jennings house on Tuesday and spent many hours in painstaking search of roads and woods south of the Gore ranch.

## GOLF STAND EXPLAINED

### OPPOSITION TO MUNICIPAL LINKS VETOED BY MR. BAKER.

### Commissioner at Civic Club Luncheon Says Cost of Taking Vote Would Exceed Money Needed.

"I am not here to argue pro or con on the question of a municipal golf link," declared Commissioner George W. Baker, at the luncheon of the Civic League yesterday.

"I am convinced from the investigations that have been carried out that the people want the city to make the experiment proposed for the establishment of this recreation under municipal supervision; I am listening to what the people demand, and I am in office to put the wishes of the people into effect, and I am willing to stand or fall on that principle."

Mr. Baker made this statement in reply to an argument advanced by John B. Stevenson, who maintained that the initial cost of \$4000 for installing the proposed links on the Ladd tract would open the way for interminable future expenditures. Mr. Stevenson declared that it is a bad principle for the municipal government to entertain a policy of providing recreation for adults, although he favored strongly the establishment of amusement centers for the young.

It was suggested to Commissioner Baker that the matter ought to be put before the people in the coming election.

"Yes, we could do that, perhaps," remarked Mr. Baker, "and it would only cost us about \$4000, which is what it will cost to install the golf links as the matter now stands."

## Grand Jury Drawing Is Tomorrow.

A grand jury will be drawn tomorrow at 2 o'clock by United States District Attorney Egan, that will consider 50 or more cases now under investigation by the Federal authorities. Among the other investigations to be made are four cases of counterfeit liquor, in two of which it is charged that bogus Federal reserve notes were made up in the factory. Two instances it is alleged that counterfeit coins were manufactured.

## MURDER OF WOMAN IS LAID TO ANOTHER'S NEED

### Officers Form Hypothesis of Crime to Fasten Responsibility on Bennett Thompson, Who Was Saved From Prison by Woman.

Hypothesis—Something not proved but assumed for the purpose of argument, or to account for a fact or an occurrence.—Webster.

To fasten the double tragedy of Monday night at the Gore ranch on a man whom they suspect investigators have several hypotheses. They set out with the belief that acts of deliberate violence are not ordinarily committed by persons of previous good record; that minor offenses have preceded the major ones. Therefore, they argue, find a criminal who had access to the scene.

Thus, when two Portland youths were murdered on the Whitehouse road a few years ago, Jack Roberts, convict with a long record, was sought by every officer in the county long before there was the merest vestige of evidence to connect him with the murder. That time the theory checked out to the full satisfaction of the jury and the officers.

So Bennett Thompson, ex-convict and friend of the murdered woman, stands accused of the murder of Mrs. Helen Jennings and the automobile driver, Fred Ristman. How justified this accusation may remain to be seen.

Here is a story told by investigators. It must be remembered that it is but a theory and that someone has said that there are no other limits to hypotheses than those of the human imagination.

**Woman Obtained Release.** Twelve years ago a masked man stepped out from behind some trees on a wood-lined road near Portland. He took the chance of losing his life or liberty. In the week that followed he forfeited freedom, and the steel doors of the Salem penitentiary closed behind him, remaining shut, to him, for 10 years. They were shut because of the importunities of a woman.

The sentence was 30 years. Shortly after his incarceration, a brother in Portland married. He took his wife to the penitentiary to see the imprisoned felon. The man who peered between the bars with dazed eyes was handsome in a rough, primitive fashion, and had been known as a gay devil with the women, before his wings had been clipped.

His brother's wife came again to the prison with her husband. Then she went alone. The man attracted her strangely and she began to wish for his release. Nine years had gone by when she first appealed to the Governor of the state for a pardon. She was met with deaf ears. She went again, and again, begging, on her

## MR. COOPER CAPTIVE

### Sellwood Carmen, on Picnic, Make Official Go. To.

## BULL RUN PARK OPENED

### City Superintendent, Who Believes He Should Stay at Home While Others Play, Does Not Get Chance; Concert Given.

It was regular "Nick Carter" stuff the carmen of the Sellwood division pulled on Fred Cooper, superintendent of city lines of the Portland Railway Light & Power Company, yesterday.

Mr. Cooper had been invited to attend the annual outing of the Sellwood carmen and their families, at Bull Run Park, but he thought he ought to stay at home and "do the chores," inasmuch as quite a number of the other officials were going to the away and wouldn't do to leave the general offices deserted entirely.

Some of the boys got Mr. Cooper down to First and Alder streets, where he errand, just before the big five-car trainload of picnicers was ready to start for the trip.

**Desperadoes Capture Official.** Mr. Cooper started in to introduce General Superintendent Caldwell, another of the invited officials, to the outing committee, when a couple of armed "desperadoes" seized the athletic young superintendent from behind and blindfolded him, while Lou Wagner, the company clerk's expert, clapped a pair of handcuffs onto his wrists. Mr. Cooper was carried bodily aboard the train handcuffed to a couple of the picknickers in the escape and held prisoner until the train, was 20 miles from Portland. He was then released on condition that he "be good."

He was good.

The picnic was a great success throughout, more than 400 of the carmen, their families and invited guests forming the party which left town at 9 o'clock in the morning and put in the entire day at the company's scenic recreation park near the end of the Bull Run line. This outing was the official opening of the park for the 1916 season.

**Employees Band in Concert.** Besides an elaborate program of amateur vaudeville acts, athletic stunts, games and other pastimes, the Carmen's Band of 21 pieces gave a concert and furnished the music for the dancing in the pavilion. Many of the pleasure-seekers took their fishing rods with them and a number of good catches of trout were made.

The committee in charge of the outing consisted of Motorman C. U. Taylor, Division Superintendent J. J. Miller, and Charles H. Savage, secretary of the Brotherhood of Electric Railway Employees of the company.

The picnicers arrived home at 7:30 last night.

## CATHOLIC FORUM FORMED

### Discussion of Current Topics at St. Francis Hall Meetings Planned.

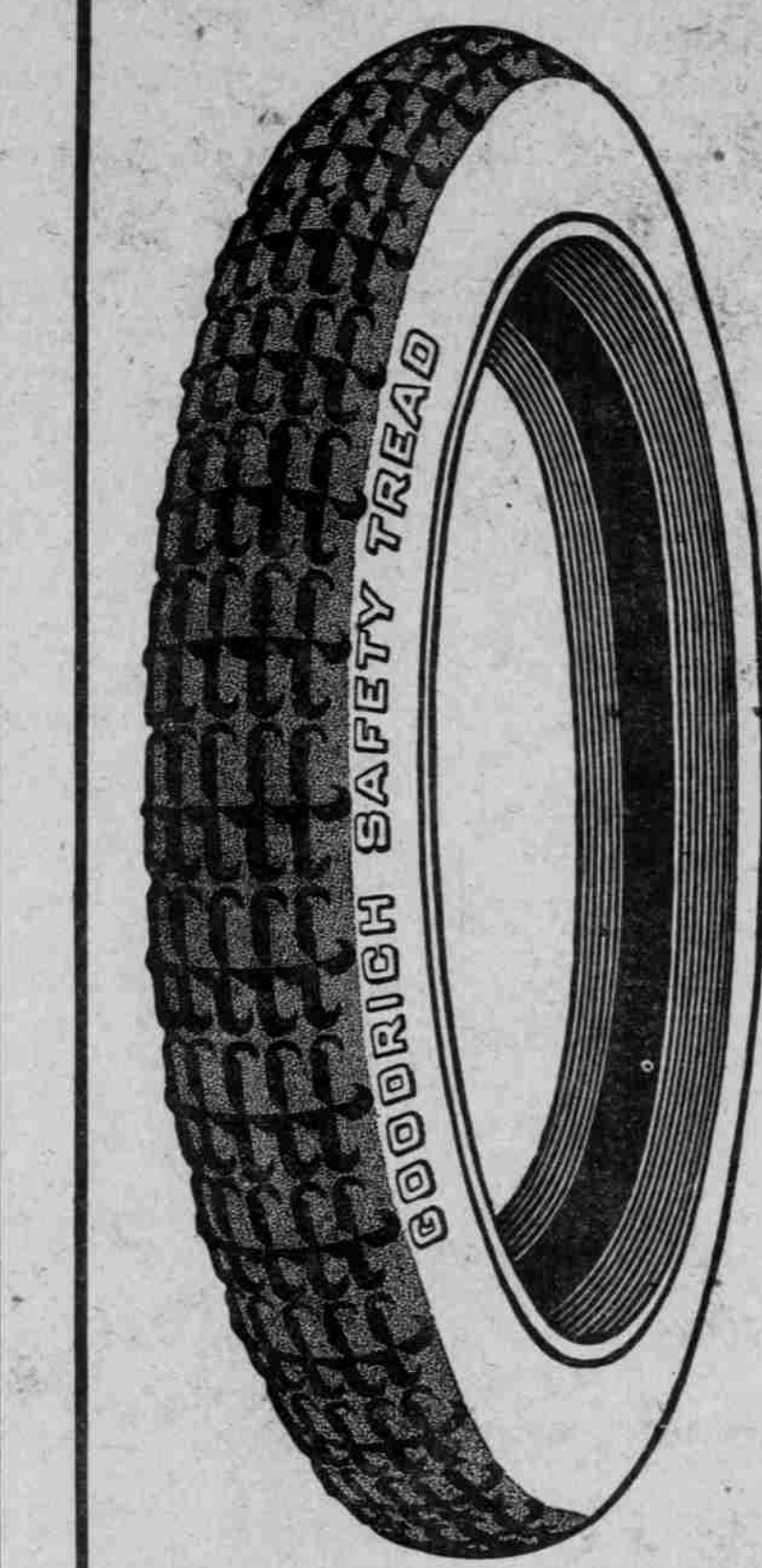
"The Catholic Young Men's Forum has been organized for educational purposes," said Rev. J. H. Black, spiritual director, at the opening meeting of the club, which was held at St. Francis Hall, yesterday night at St. Francis Hall. He outlined the object of the club, which is to hold an open discussion of current topics of all kinds.

"We find great ignorance among men who are thought to be highly educated," said Rev. Mr. Black, "even in common affairs; and one of the purposes of the forum is to remedy this lack through the addresses of learned men."

## Roseburg Drinkers Get No Liquor.

ROSEBURG, Or., May 20.—(Special.)—A number of local "topers" were disappointed here yesterday when they were refused liquor by the offices of the common carriers operating in this city. Refusal to deliver shipments of liquor was based on an opinion of the Attorney-General, who held that such a delivery would constitute a violation of the prohibition law.

# Re,—the new "Barefoot" Rubber— in GOODRICH Tires



Of course, it is "not pure Rubber" (no Tire is). Of course it is "only an Alloy" (every Tire is). But this Alloy resembles the pigments used by a certain world-famous Artist, which he admitted, on inquiry, were "mixed with Brains."

It took some 47 years of Rubber-Manufacturing Experience to produce this "mere Alloy."

It took the best efforts of the largest, and ablest, Research Department possessed by any Rubber Factory in America to develop it.

But,—it was worth all the time, effort, and skill, required to develop it.

Because, it has done for Goodrich Rubber what certain other marvelous Alloys have done for Steel and Bronze,—i. e., multiplied its EFFICIENCY for the purpose intended.

And, it has done this without increasing the cost of Goodrich Tires to Consumers.

FIRST we called it "Hyper-Rubber," which it is of course. But, one of its most valuable characteristics, for Tire (and Shoe) purposes, is its CLING quality—its tenacious grip on smooth and slippery surfaces.

Through that it gives its maximum Traction with a minimum of Friction.

When you put on the Brakes to stop the Car, or throw in the Clutch to start the Car, the Tires made of this Goodrich Rubber Alloy instead of grinding against the ground for Traction, CLING to it, as your bare foot would cling to a slippery floor.

That's why we've finally christened it, and trade-marked it, as "Barefoot" Rubber.

Get a sliver of it, at any Goodrich Branch, and you'll find it stretch almost as much, and return to shape almost as instantly, as a pure Rubber band.

Weigh a Goodrich "Barefoot" Tire of any size against the corresponding size of other makes of Tire, and you'll find it many pounds lighter, though many "Miles" stronger.

Drive it, and you'll find in Goodrich "Barefoot" Tires a liveliness, a quick response to power, a tenacity of traction,—and all this with a Mileage capacity which will surprise and delight you.

WE developed this "Barefoot Rubber" primarily for use in our now famous "Silvertown Cord" Tire which, this year, showed such marvelous ENDURANCE on the Race Track, at over 100 Miles per hour.

But, since we cannot yet supply the demand for "Silvertown Cord" Tires, until three times as much special machinery for its manufacture can be constructed and installed, we decided to use this wonderful "Barefoot" RUBBER Alloy in all Goodrich FABRIC Tires, for 1916.

We also make it into Goodrich Inner Tubes,—Goodrich Motorcycle Tires,—Goodrich Truck Tires,—Goodrich Bicycle Tires,—Goodrich Rubber Boots, Overshoes, Soles and Heels, as well as into Silvertown Cord Tires.

Because,—in all of these characteristics of "Cling,—Spring,—Stretch,—Strength,—and Lightness"—are first requisites.

Now, compare GOODRICH Fair-List prices with prices you are quoted for same size Tires of other Brands, that have not the wonderful Resilience and Cling-quality of this new "Barefoot Rubber," which can be had in no other Tires than those made by—

THE B. F. GOODRICH RUBBER CO., AKRON, OHIO  
Local Address, Broadway at Burnside

NOTICE.  
No Concern in America made, or sold, during its last fiscal year, by the B. F. Goodrich Rubber Co. of Akron, Ohio, for Motor-Car Tires as did The B. F. Goodrich Rubber Co. of Akron, Ohio.

Our published Challenge, still unanswered, proves this.

# GOODRICH "BAREFOOT" TIRES

## U. S. Barrack Shoes

Solid leather soles and heels, leather tips and instep. Cool and easy on the feet. Nothing to equal them for comfort. Nice for office, shop, home. Direct from Government. Sizes 5, 6, 7, 8.

Price **75c** Pair

OTHER GOODS and novelties galore. Catalogues mailed. Orders filled.

**W. S. KIRK**  
94 Third St., Portland, Or.

A fence barred his way to the railroad, but he knew there was a pathway the other side of the fence. In the shelter of the woods he took an inventory of himself. His shirt was badly stained with blood. He changed his clothes, washed his hands in a muddy pool and wiped them on the shirt. He threw the shirt aside, but put his old clothes in the bag. They might identify more readily than the shirt.

He reached the railroad and crouched low, followed the track to Shilwood. His brother was living near there, and he knew he would give him shelter. It was easy to return to the city that morning by the early train, and to begin establishing a perfect alibi.

He called to the driver to slow down, but not to kill his engine, as he wanted to see if there was a lake beyond the trees. He was not sure, he said, that he was going in the right direction. The driver obeyed. No sooner had the emergency brake been set than the passenger brought the paper-wrapped "tool" in his hands down with great force upon the head of the driver, as he sat on the seat in front of him.

The man, partially stunned, had risen from his seat, but another blow finished him. The murderer pulled the body back into the tonneau, put it on the floor and placed the floor mat over it. He climbed into the front seat himself, released the brake and made his way slowly from the spot. He was afraid to linger for the noise of the engine may have attracted persons near by.

The next time he stopped he disposed of the body. He threw it into the river or concealed it in the brush. His shirt showed a stain on the back, where the dead man may have been carried. When the murderer neared the woman's house, he again stopped. His cuffs showed blood stains beneath his coat. They might attract unfavorable attention. He tore them off and stuffed them in his pockets. One with the link still in the cuff, dropped unnoticed to the road.

The stained laprobe and Panama hat of the dead man were hidden in the brush.

The murderer proceeded to the woman's house, stopping the engine when he halted in the yard. He knocked on the front door. Throwing a cape about her—the cape was found later on the foot of her bed—the woman went to the door. He stepped in, "I'm hungry," he said. She showed him where some food was. "Don't stay up," he told her. "I'm going to sleep in D. V.'s room." D. V. was the son, who was not home.

He finished his meal and lay down on the bed in the rear room until the woman's regular breathing told him she slept. Then he arose. With the sledge he had found near the rear door, he killed the sleeping woman. He then broke open a box, hoping it might contain valuables, and found it held only a man of fine moral scruples. He took all the money he could find. It was not a large sum. He could not find the diamonds.

**Heirlooms Are Taken.**  
A suit of clothes was taken. His own garments were blood-stained. He

## BAPPLING FEATURES OF MURDER MYSTERY

Tuesday, May 16—Friends of Fred Ristman, jitneur, become alarmed when he does not return from night trip. Search party organized. Jitneur's automobile, blood-smeared, in driveway of Gore ranch, between Tualatin and Sherwood, also, Helen Jennings, owner of ranch, broken into by Constable at request of Ristman's friends. Mrs. Jennings found in bed, with head crushed. Blood-stained sledge lying on the floor. House ransacked.

Wednesday, May 17—Tualatin hat, blood-stained, identified as Ristman's, spotted election card of Sheriff Hurlburt, and green laprobe owned by Ristman, and covered with blood, discovered in brush at side of road 300 yards from Jennings home. Blood-stained sleeve and cuff with gold link found in roadway. Assumed to be Ristman's. Bennett Thompson, ex-convict, arrested on suspicion in Portland. Is not identified as passenger of Ristman.

Thursday, May 18—Blood-stained, grease-smeared shirt, minus cuffs, found 440 yards north of Jennings house on trail toward electric railroad. Mrs. Ristman tells The Oregonian it did not belong to her husband.

Friday, May 19—Officers accept supposition that shirt belonged to murderer. Thompson found to wear 1 1/2 inch necktie, and size 15 1/2. Clothes bag containing family heirlooms is missing from Jennings home. Suit of black cloth, half-line stripe of white, half an inch apart, also missing.

Saturday, May 20—Search for body of Ristman continues unavailing. No new clues unearthed. Officers hope to fix crime on Thompson, who may face a charge of second degree murder at Hillsboro.

## HILLSBORO, Or., May 20.—(Special.)

Sheriff Reeves brought from Portland tonight an undershirt he believes was worn by Thompson the night of the Jennings murder.

Stains on the sleeves when tested proved to be blood, and Thompson's sister-in-law, with whom he lived on the East Side, and where the shirt was recovered, admits washing it. Reeves says he has found the dealer who sold grease on the night of the murder to two men answering the description of Ristman and Thompson.

Although five days have passed since the discovery of the brutal murder of Mrs. Helen Jennings, and evidence pointing to the violent death of Fred Ristman, jitneur, the solution of the mystery remains beyond the ken of police and Sheriff.

## Positive Evidence Lacking.

In ascertaining the identity of the murderer little more progress has been made. A man is under arrest, Bennett Thompson, and the authorities believe they have the person responsible for the crime. But no evidence which would conclusively connect him with it has been unearthed. He has been known the dead woman, to have been in need of money, and is known to be a hard character, though a crime approaching murder had never before been laid at his door.

## Today Large Parties Will Search.

Today a more extensive search than has heretofore been conducted will be made by friends of the dead man and brother Oddfellow. A call for scores of automobiles has been made by jitney men who will start from Second and Alder streets shortly after 8 o'clock this morning. Independent parties are expected to be leaving Portland all day. The parties will be organized at the Gore ranch and branch out in every direction. Many will devote all their time to search along the banks of the Tualatin and in the ditches that line sections of the country.

## Grease Is Over Blood Stains.

At one time Thompson wore a 15 1/2 shirt, for his neck measurement at the Salem penitentiary is 15. That was taken nearly 10 years ago. The shirt found was an old one and had been carefully patched on the left of the band, where the collar and rubbed. The authorities contend, in support of their belief that Thompson is the criminal, that in view of the shirt being an old one, Thompson might have worn it before his enlarged neck required a larger size.

## Another Theory to Which Deputy Sheriff Phillips Points.

Another theory to which Deputy Sheriff Phillips points is that Thompson was never in the habit of wearing a collar, though he more often than not