

352 ACTS BECOME LAWS TOMORROW

Enforcement of Anti-Cigarette Measure to Be Strict, Say Dealers Over State.

OVERDRAFT IS DANGEROUS

Public Utilities Are Restricted, Highway Laws Effective, Lime Board Established, Inheritance Tax Is Increased.

SALEM, Or., May 19.—(Special).—Excluding what measures may be referred by referendum petition to the people at the election in November, 1918, 352 new laws will become effective tomorrow, May 21. These laws passed by the last Legislature without an emergency clause, or which were not referred to the people by the Legislature.

Altogether the last Legislature passed 411 laws. Of this number 69 carried the emergency clause. Ten others were referred by the Legislature to the people, either to be voted on at the special election in June, or at the general election in November, 1918.

Of the 352 laws which become effective tomorrow many are of purely local interest.

Cigarette Age Limit Raised. Tomorrow will see the ban placed on cigarette smoking by any person under 21 years of age. The limit has been 18 years of age. The new anti-cigarette law is drastic in its terms, as far as minors are concerned and there seems to be a general sentiment throughout the state that it will be enforced to the letter.

Reports from retailers from all directions indicate that they will place a strict taboo on the sale of tobacco to minors and will exercise every precaution to see that it is not sold to anyone who is likely to be a go-between for a minor.

Of vast importance to public utilities is the public necessity and convenience clause act. Under this act no new public utility, which would become a competitor against any other public utility already in the field, can commence operations without first obtaining a certificate of public necessity and convenience from the Public Service Commission.

Cities Not Included. This, however, does not apply to municipal plants or small mutual utilities. Under what is known as the "boom bill," all navigable streams of the state are declared to be common carriers and are placed under the jurisdiction of the Public Service Commission and the Public Service Commission and the Public Service Commission.

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CONVICT SAYS HE MURDERED BOOTH

William Riggins Declares He Was Incited to Commit Crime by Old Grudge.

FULL CONFESSION IS MADE

Innocence of Mrs. Booth and William Branson, Recently Convicted of Killing William Booth at Willamina, Is Asserted.

HILLSBORO, Or., May 19.—(Special).—According to a story told today by William Riggins to Sheriff Applegate, but which is not generally fully accepted, circumstantial evidence is again at fault and William Branson and Mrs. William Booth are guiltless of the murder of the latter's husband, William Booth, October 8, 1915, and Riggins is guilty.

With details that apparently check up with the crime in all particulars, Riggins told today of seeing Branson and Mrs. Booth together, as was brought out at the trial, and how later, when he saw Booth coming across a field, he shot at him with a rifle and then with a revolver.

By means of a rough map which he sketched he pictured the scene of the crime and described the wounded man fell on the bank of the stream in the position in which the body was found.

The story was told to Sheriff Applegate in the presence of Deputy McQuillan and George Riggins, father of the prisoner, and when it was written out Riggins signed it and swore to it before County Clerk Kuralt.

Mrs. Booth's Name Involved. Following is the text of the confession: William Riggins, under oath, do make this my true and voluntary statement, to-wit: Branson and Mrs. Booth are not guilty of killing Booth. I shot Booth in the back with a rifle for me, and one time, called me out to the poolhall in Willamina and told me that I had a bad name; said for me to "hell with him." He slapped me on the side of my head. Another time I was standing on a street in Willamina and

Booth came along and said to the other fellow he was with. There is a com. "He always had it in for me. I said to myself that I was going to get him. I thought he ought to be off to the Game Warden. He always kept picking at me. On October 7, in the forenoon, I went down past Dad Lee's place and got to talking with him about Booth. He knew that Mrs. Booth and Branson were going together and that Booth was jealous. He told me that Booth was going up in there all the time, trailing Billy Branson. Booth watched me like a hawk and was jealous of me.

Three Shots Fired. "On October 8, in the morning, I took a 22-20 rifle and a .38 Smith & Wesson hammerless revolver, blue steel, and went up to the timber to practice shooting and wait for Booth. I had a lot of mixed shells for the Vasey and hand-loaded and some were not. I practiced shooting for about two hours; did not expect to find Booth; I came down the road and saw Billy Branson and Mrs. Booth talking together; when I passed them they were off at the edge of the road, just a few feet from the edge of the road; they did not see me, or did not let on that they saw me.

"I don't know that they saw me. I was about 40 yards from them. There was some brush and timber between me and them. I stood there and watched them. I saw Booth coming across the field to the left of me, and when he was about 100 yards off I shot at him with the rifle. He stopped and looked around and I ducked down on the ground. He came on across, and I waited until he got to about 30 yards from me and I shot him with the revolver. After I shot he partly turned around and fell kind of on his left side. He said: 'Oh, my God. I shot you again when you were on the ground, but I missed him.'

Escape Is Explained. "I would have shot all the shells at him, but I was afraid someone would see me. I hit out to the left and ran down through the brush. I walked to a vacant shed near Willamina, where I had a horse that I hired from a stable in McMinnville, got on the horse and beat it. The shed is near an old sawmill at the edge of Willamina. It was a spotted pony with roached mane. I rode out through Copper River and past Baker Creek Falls and passed Jerry Baker's place to Walker Flat. I shot the horse into McMinnville and turned him loose in the stable, but not the stable that I hired him from. I got the horse out of the Red Fort barn and turned him loose in the barn below the Commercial Hotel. There was no one in the barn. I rode right in the barn and jerked the bridle off the horse and looked the saddle and put him in the stall with a horse named back to Walker Flat and stayed for three days with a man who was making boards at McMinnville, on over to Tillamook and ditched the revolver on the belt at Pinkey Stillwell's place on the road to Tillamook. I put the revolver in my wife's bag. But I didn't know the shooting took place. I wore a blue shirt, corduroy pants and high-top corked shoes. WILLIAM RIGGINS."

Riggins formerly lived in Hillsboro, but was in Willamina at the time of the Booth murder. He was convicted of larceny and sent to Salem from Yamhill County Jail, May 13, 1915. Belief that he was connected with the Willamina County case caused the penitentiary officials to permit his removal to Hillsboro two weeks ago, and it was when questioned regarding the local case that he made admissions regarding the Booth murder, which were followed up and resulted in the full confession.

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Woman Denies Acquaintance With Man Who Made Confession. SALEM, Or., May 19.—(Special).—Mrs. Anna Booth, serving a term for manslaughter at the State Penitentiary in connection with the killing of her husband, William Booth, in Yamhill County, fainted after the news had been broken to her by a newspaperman last night. Riggins, a convicted felon, had confessed to the crime for which she and William Booth were serving prison terms.

A few days ago Riggins signified to the officers that he could clear up the mystery of a number of crimes around the Willamina case, and on permission from Governor Witham he was taken to Hillsboro a few days ago.

'Riggins Should Be in Asylum Instead of Penitentiary,' Assertion. "There is not a word of truth in the confession. Riggins ought to be in the asylum instead of the penitentiary," Sheriff Henderson, who has known Riggins for years as a convict and otherwise, is of the same opinion.

The fact that Riggins was in jail here at the time the Branson trial was on and the fact that Branson and Riggins were always together in the corridors of the jail certainly lead to the belief that Branson may have killed Riggins full of the story of the

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Campbell Hill Hotel 741 Washington Street. Phone Main 7504. 5 to 7 P. M.

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NO MATTER how stylish your suit may look, if the fabrics aren't all-wool, if the workmanship and tailoring are poor—your suit will soon lose its shape, its style, and its fit.

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All-wool fabrics go into these clothes, fine tailoring, fine "inside materials"—and the style can't be surpassed—best of all, it stays stylish.

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crime, how the deed was committed, how jealous Booth was, how Booth fell when shot, et cetera, et cetera, to such an extent that the Riggins mind, not as strong as it might be, has developed the belief that he, Riggins, really was a party to the crime.

No one in the city tonight who is familiar with the case and knows Riggins puts any credit in the story which he told to Hillsboro officials.

His story about getting a horse here and delivering it after the crime was committed is discounted. For two years or more the old Commercial Hotel has been known as the McMinnville Hotel. There is no barn in the vicinity of the old Commercial Hotel. There is no "Red Front Barn" here, as Riggins asserts. One old barn painted red has been hired from it, because it is not a lively stable.

RIGGINS DEEMED HALF-WITTED Confession Staggers Branson and Booth Families.

WILLAMINA, Or., May 19.—(Special).—The Riggins confession of the Booth murder is the talk of the town tonight, and even members of the Branson and Booth families are so shocked by the report that some of them even wonder if there is a possibility that the confession can be true.

It is known that young Riggins was here when the Booth crime was committed, spending about a week in town loafing. Later he was employed for a week or 10 days at the Doan Creek Lumber Company's mill about seven miles up the Yamhill River.

Those who know Riggins at all declare him to be irresponsible and class him as half-witted. He has been an inmate of the State Reform School, and a Cincinnati man has lived on a ranch near the Doan Creek mill, and the father often has been employed there also.

STEVENS' WORK LAUDED HARVEY WELLS EX-OFFICIO STATE FIRE MARSHAL TO BE ON DUTY.

Portland Fireman Will Be With Oregon Only 90 Days to Perfect Organization and Then Goes South.

SALEM, Or., May 19.—(Special).—Insurance Commissioner Harvey Wells, who also becomes ex-officio State Fire Marshal Monday, May 21, when the new fire marshal law goes into effect, touched upon some of the prospective work of that office in a statement given out today and also upon some of the qualifications and record of Jack Stevens, who will be Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal.

Mr. Stevens will remain in the department for only about 60 days to perfect its organization, when he will leave to become manager for the fire-prevention bureau for the Pacific Coast in the interest of the insurance com-

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