

STATE PROSECUTORS  
WALTER H. EVANS

Walter H. Evans calls his District Attorneys' Opinions. 1 OUT OF 26 IS OPPOSED Sentiment Throughout Oregon Now Calls for Capital Punishment in Murder Cases.

When Walter H. Evans, district attorney of Multnomah county, said yesterday that he was convinced he had made a grave mistake in voting for the abolition of capital punishment in Oregon some years ago, his convictions were echoed by 25 prosecuting attorneys of the state in letters lying on his desk, in at least one of which was the admission that the writer, also, had voted with the sentimentalists.

Believing his own experience in the handling of criminals since the gallows was abolished to be typical, Mr. Evans sought confirmation by writing a personal letter to every district attorney in the state asking views of the proposal to restore the gallows. Twenty-six replies had been received yesterday, in which but one prosecutor doubted the advisability of a constitutional amendment restoring capital punishment and even he admitted that his feeling against the death penalty was not as strong as it had been in the past.

From five to eight years in the average "life imprisonment" in Oregon, pointed out Mr. Evans in explaining his changed position on the question of capital punishment. He does not believe that a sufficient penalty to pay for the taking of human life in cold blood. He thinks society is being protected more by the early release of murderers following sentences of life imprisonment.

Hanging undoubtedly would deter the commission of murder in numerous cases, declared the district attorney. The Claremont tavern tragedy and the Johnson slaying were cases in point.

"When a man wantonly murders his benefactors," Mr. Evans said, "and then citizens when on robbery bent, there is no penalty proportioned to such an offense except that the offender shall forfeit his life to the state," commented Mr. Evans. "The statement in our constitution that all penalties shall be proportioned to the offense is almost a paraphrase of the old Mosiac doctrine of 'an eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth.'"

"The highwaymen whose code of morals is so slack that he can persuade himself to undertake a career of robbery can easily satisfy his mind that in the emergency of the moment it is no worse for him to kill than for him to rob, the penalty in both instances being life imprisonment," he said. "I have no doubt that the highwaymen who held up the Claremont tavern recently so recklessly would have committed his murder."

"The man who murders because of the influence of sex no doubt would be deterred by the dread of hanging. He usually is of a timid type, and usually in the extreme and the thought of cutting off his physical pleasures forever would go a long way toward staying his hand. And finally, the man who murders in cold blood forfeits his right to a station in society, because by his act he has shown himself to be a person who cannot exercise the degree of moral self-control to entitle him to be at large in the community."

Referring to the brevity of "life" terms in the penitentiary, Mr. Evans said, "We condemn the murderer to life imprisonment because he has forfeited his right to mingle with the rest of his human kind, and we lose sight of the fact that in a comparatively short period of years the murderer is again in the community, and with no more power of self-control than he had when he committed his murder."

A great deterrent force against murder was lost when the scaffold was abolished in Oregon, declared Mr. Evans, saying that experience had clearly convinced him that he made a mistake in voting in the ballot in favor of the amendment.

OREGON'S PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS BELIEVE RESTORATION OF GALLOW'S A NECESSITY TO CHECK MURDER WAVE.

Portrait of G.M. Roberts, Jackson.

Portrait of Walter H. Evans, Multnomah.

Portrait of G.R. Meischer, Columbia.

Portrait of R.J. Meador, Umatilla.

Portrait of J.J. Barrett, Clatsop.

Portrait of G.A. White, Clatsop.

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CHANCE FOR POETS HERE  
CONTEST FOR YOUNG VERSIFIERS ANNOUNCED.

Cash and Merchandise Prizes Offered for Best Productions of Local Students.

School children of Portland are asked to cooperate in the "Universal Holiday Season" by participating in a prize poem contest for which cash and merchandise prizes aggregating more than \$500 are offered.

Details of the contest were drawn up yesterday by the Greater Portland Association. The Portland Parent-Teacher association has promised to co-operate.

Mrs. Ed Palmer, president of the Portland Parent-Teacher association has named the following committee to have general charge of the judging: Mrs. J. E. Chapman, Miss Valentine Frickard, Mrs. Lena Fisher, Mrs. George G. Root and Mrs. George Downey.

In addition to the cash prizes announced there will be many "honorable mention" prize awards in the contest.

Following are the rules governing the contest: Poems must not exceed 50 lines, legibly written or typewritten on one side of the sheet.

On the first page of the sheet must be name, age, grade in school, address and, if possible, telephone number. Contestants should be clearly marked on the outside of the envelope "Universal Holiday Contest."

Not more than one contribution from a single person will be considered. The contest continues from now until midnight, Monday, December 15, when it will be closed for judging. Contributions received after that date cannot be considered. Prize awards will be made not later than Friday, December 19.

Information concerning the contest can be obtained from the Portland Parent-Teacher association, Main 3001, the Universal Holiday Contest, Broadway at 21st, the local Parent-Teacher circle, or any store displaying the Greater Portland association seal.

Contestants will be in three classes: Grade pupils up to and including the 6th grade; pupils above the 6th grade, inclusive; and high school students. Prizes will be awarded as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Lower Grades, Upper Grades. Lists prize amounts for different grades.

No One Remedy Is Applicable to Every Hair and Scalp Trouble. I base this statement on science and fact. The hair and scalp are affected by a variety of conditions...

G. A. WHITE STARTS EAST EX-ADJUTANT TO TRANSACT LEGION BUSINESS. Conference Will Be Attended in Washington to Sign Million More War Veterans.

George A. White, former adjutant-general of the state of Oregon, who returned to Portland several weeks ago from France, where he served in the American expeditionary force...

Hotel Plaza San Francisco. AT UNION SQUARE. The Plaza gives the best values in the three important things in hotel accommodations.

Hotel Stewart San Francisco. Rates from \$7.50 a Day. Breakfast 40c and 75c. Lunch 50c. Sundays 75c. Dinner \$1.25; Sundays \$1.50.

Car Need Delays Pack. McMinville Plant Has Thousands of Boxes Waiting Shipment.

A Three-Day Sale - Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Owl Theatrical Cold Cream. Special - 59c. The Owl Theatrical Cold Cream is a particularly valuable toilet aid in winter time. The Owl Drug Co. BROADWAY AND WASHINGTON. E. Strupler, Manager. Mail Orders Given Prompt Attention. NEITHER PART NOR LOT In the Matter. Of the Council of the Twelve, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. WIND, rain, and the varying temperatures of winter days are most trying to the complexion; not so, however, to the woman who has learned to use that delightful and soothing medicinal toilet preparation, Santiseptic Lotion.