

**PROSECUTORS URGE STRICTER PAROLES**

Oregon 'Lax' System Scored by District Attorneys.

**STATE SESSION CLOSES**

Max Gehlhar of Marion County is Elected President of Association—Crime Wave Viewed.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 13.—(Special)—Members of the Oregon district attorneys' association at their closing session here today went on record, expressing confidence that the legislature at its extraordinary meeting in January would enact remedial legislation intended to increase the efficiency of the parole system now in operation in Oregon, and pledging the support of the organization in the nation-wide campaign to curb radicalism and disloyalty.

Max Gehlhar, district attorney of Marion county, was elected president of the association for the ensuing year, while E. M. Swagler of Multnomah county was chosen vice-president. W. M. Duncan of Klamath county was named secretary. The executive committee is composed of J. S. Hodgins of Union county; L. L. Ray of Eugene and George Neuner of Roseburg.

**Capital Punishment Urged.**  
R. M. Swagler, speaking before the district attorneys, declared he was unqualifiedly in favor of the restoration of capital punishment in Oregon and was equally as strong in his belief that the legislature at its special session in January should either abolish the indeterminate sentence law or restore the provisions of the 1917 act.

"District attorneys of this state feel the shortcomings and iniquitous results of the present parole system," said Mr. Swagler, "and it is time a change is made. The people of Oregon are tired and disgusted with the maddening sentiment that has served to encourage crime, and they demand that something be done in the interest of society, order and law enforcement."

"We would be glad to sit idly by and shrug our responsibility, and it is our duty as law-enforcing officials to come out unqualifiedly for drastic changes in our parole system."

**Increasing Crime Cited.**  
"The steadily increasing chain of crimes during the past few weeks should furnish conclusive proof that something should be done at the earliest possible opportunity to make the punishment of these violators appropriate to the infraction. Under our present system a man convicted of a grave offense is sentenced to the penitentiary for a long term of years. Time passes rapidly, and within a few short months he makes appeal for a pardon. In many cases, through the cunningness of a criminal brain, the prisoner convinces the officers of his good intentions and is paroled, again to prey on society."

"The system is wrong, and not until these men who take advantage of their unsuspecting brothers are made to realize that their punishment is serious rather than a farce will the calendar of crime start on the downward trend."

**Death Penalty Favored.**  
Although the association did not go on record favoring capital punishment, all the members present expressed their individual opinion that they would welcome the restoration of the death penalty in Oregon.

Attorney-General Brown, who has had more than 21 years' experience as a prosecuting official and has represented the state in many of the most important murder cases tried during the last quarter of a century, was emphatic in his assertion that fear of the death penalty, while in force in Oregon, has deterred many a criminal from committing an act punishable on the scaffold.

Other district attorneys agreed with Mr. Brown and in most instances they were opposed to the jury having anything to say regarding the severity of the penalty. Because of the heavy fall of snow the district attorneys made no attempt to inspect the state institutions as proposed at the time the programme was arranged.

**TWO GIRLS SENTENCED**

Auto Theft Brings Penalty of Two and Half to Ten Years.

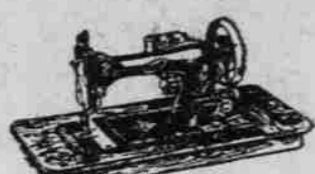
VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 13.—(Special)—Eugene McCool of Walla Walla, Wash., and Alta Brooks of Hillsboro, Or., both 18 years of age, were sentenced in the court of Judge Back today to a period of from two and one-half to ten years in the penitentiary at Walla for the theft of an automobile.

The girls, accused of the theft of the car belonging to William Farrell of Battleground, Wash., were arrested here and arraigned November 12. They will be taken to the penitentiary at once.

**Templars Elect Officers.**

At the annual meeting of Oregon commandery No. 1, Knights Templar, held in their asylum December 11, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Commander, Dr. G. Earle Hentob; generalissimo, John K. Kellock; captain-general, Robert J. Gordon; senior warden, Albert H. Trego; junior warden, Leonard K. Eider; excellent preside, Earl C. Bronsberg; recorder, C. F. Wiegand; treasurer, Albert M. Brown; standard bearer, Loyd L. Scott; sword bearer, Charles E. Minstinger; warden, Robert E. Fulton, captain of guard, L. A. Jacobson; first guard, John T. Hotchkiss; second guard, Walter L. Cornell; organist, William R. Boone; sentinel, P. F. Kilbourne. Grand Com-

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**MINER INSTANTLY KILLED**

Worker Falls While Loading Coal Bunkers at Centralia.

CENTRALIA, Wash., Dec. 13.—(Special)—Petro Binondi, a coal miner who has been working for the Northern Pacific during the strike, was instantly killed this afternoon while loading Northern Pacific coal bunkers. He fell into the bunkers, striking on his head and fracturing his skull.

Binondi was about 30 years of age and a native of Italy. He has no relatives in this country.

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