

COUNTRYSIDE HUNT BEGUN FOR SLAYERS

**Murder of Benjamin Rich Still
Remains Mystery.**

TWO STRANGERS SOUGHT

**Ridgefield Councilman and Legion
Chaplain Has Unexpected
Guest Day of Killing.**

VANCOUVER, Wash., June 25.—(Special.)—Sheriff Thompson is sending letters throughout the United States in the hope of finding the murderer or murderers of Benjamin Rich of Ridgefield, Wash., June 5.

A reward of \$1500 was offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the party or parties who killed Rich in his home in Ridgefield. The body of the murdered man was found by neighbors June 8. He had been struck four blows on the head, tied hand and foot and gagged by tying an undershirt over his mouth and stuffing it in securely.

Rich had been a resident of Ridgefield for 15 years, was a councilman of the town and was chaplain of the American Legion at the time of his death. He lived alone and it had been his custom for a year to feed, lodge and befriend hobos who had camped along the railroad track. He was last seen alive in his home about 9:30 P. M. the night of June 5 with two strangers of the hobo type.

Strangers Enter House.
Rich was preparing breakfast about 6:30 A. M. June 5 for a man whom he had invited to his home the day previous. Two men entered the house without knocking. They said to Rich, "Hello, there," and one, at least, shook hands with him.

Rich then turned to the man he had invited for breakfast and said, by way of introduction, "Friends of mine," without mentioning names.

Rich then said, "You back again? I thought you went to Montana," to which No. 1 replied: "We went to Montana and Dakota, but nothing doing."

No. 2 began reading and there was no conversation until breakfast. The arrivals were very hungry, sleepy and tired, as though from riding all night, and evidently had just arrived in Ridgefield by beating their way on the railroad. They talked about their travel and beating the railroad and military matters regarding the army. Rich and No. 1 held a conversation in the kitchen that brought forth the remark from No. 1, "You might get away with that 'over there,' but not here."

Last Time Seen Alive.
Mr. Rich was never seen alive after the disappearance of these men. They were described as follows: No. 1, 25 to 30 years old; 5 feet 8 to 10 inches tall; 150 to 160 pounds, medium build; heavy light brown hair, especially heavy on the temples, quite long and combed straight back; smooth shaven; did not seem to have a heavy beard; good teeth, pleasant expression; blue soft working shirt with dark four-in-hand tie tucked in shirt, blue sack coat, no vest; blue overalls, no bib, and faded; black lace shoes in good condition; smoking hand-made cigarettes; looks clean in appearance; no trousers under overalls; stood erect like a soldier and conversation indicated he had been in the service. He did most of the talking to Rich and seemed to have been acquainted with him; he is believed to be American; dirty, black soft hat, Fedoras; long slim hands and not those of a working man.

Second Stranger Described.
No. 2, about 25 to 30 years old, perhaps older; short and stout build, about 5 feet 7 or 8 inches; heavy reddish brown hair; combed straight back, smooth-shaven, strong neck, protruding chin, heavy lips, prominent cheek bones, ruddy complexion, exposed to the weather, rough appearance; not as clean as No. 1; did not talk as though he had been in the army, but may have been; wore a dirty, soft dark-colored hat, perhaps faded, telescope shape, brown or dark red stain on hat in front near crown about size of a dollar, wide band, full of grease and perspiration; drab shirt, not military collar; dark-colored, dirty coat, logger's pants, yellow or brownish colored and looked dirty; would be taken for a logger from his dress; brown logger's shoes, one-half top, quite well worn; no vest, no suspenders, but wore belt. As soon as he entered the house he went to sleep on the lounge and after both had washed at the pump No. 2 returned to the lounge again and was awakened when the four had breakfast. He had a thick, heavy nose and was believed to be American born; had a bulldog face; did little talking and seemed to be a quiet sort of man.

AUTO SUSPECTS CAUGHT

**Man and Wife Returned to Boise
From Baker to Answer Charge.**

BAKER, Or., June 25.—(Special.)—H. Paul Hayden and Bessie Hayden, alleged auto thieves, were arrested in Baker last night by B. M. Patterson, deputy sheriff, and taken to Boise, Idaho, today to answer a charge of stealing a machine. With the couple was their year-old daughter.

Hayden refused to release his hands from the steering wheel until the officer drew his revolver. Mrs. Hayden, who was in the rear seat, made a dash for the pocket of the car door, but Acting Chief of Police Littlefield "covered" her before she could draw a revolver, which later was found in the pocket. The couple were held in the county jail last night.

According to information received from Boise, Mr. and Mrs. Hayden and Arthur Kinley, who was captured recently at Weiser, are believed to be the trio which stole a large touring car in Portland last May, and were traced to eastern Oregon, it is said. Sheriff Andrew Anderson, who returned the couple to Boise, said the trio drove into Boise in an old automobile and approached Mrs. Viola Lawless in regard to the sale of her large automobile. It is said that negotiations were under way, and that Hayden was driving the machine around the block after saying he wished to test the motor. The trio then made their getaway, according to the sheriff's information.

DAM FIGHT IS DEVELOPED

**Prosser Intervenes in Suit to Con-
demn Power Site.**

PROSSER, Wash., June 25.—(Special.)—The first real fight over the condemnation of the power site at the Prosser dam was heard before Judge Mills of Walla Walla this afternoon. The hearing was to ascertain

whether it is necessary for the power site to be condemned for public use, as the law specifies that the court must pass upon this phase before the case can go to a jury to be tried and damages assessed.

The city of Prosser has filed a petition to intervene in the case and asks its rights be considered superior to all others on the grounds that it needs the power generated at the Prosser dam for domestic use. Attorneys for the Kennewick irrigation district, under whose name the condemnation proceedings are presented, are Moulton & Jeffrey of Kennewick and ex-Attorney-General Tanner of Seattle. McGregor & Frisvold are representing Nelson Rich; Williamson & Lohman of Yakima appear for E. F. Benson; Bushnell & Beardsley of Prosser and H. J. Sulvely of Yakima for the Prosser Mill and the Kemp estate; Laing & Gray of Portland for the Pacific Power & Light company, and Bruce E. McGregor of Prosser and ex-Judge Thomas E. Grady of Yakima for the city of Prosser. A number of prominent engineers and mill experts are witnesses.

POWELL REUNION TODAY

**200 DESCENDANTS OF PIONEER
FAMILY TO GATHER.**

**Memorial Society, Headed by Dr.
J. M. Powell, Monmouth, to Hold
Event on Donation Land Claim.**

ALBANY, Or., June 25.—(Special.)—More than 200 persons from various sections of the Willamette valley, descendants of John A. Powell and his brothers who crossed the plains to Oregon in 1851, will meet tomorrow in annual family reunion on the original Powell donation land claim eight miles east of Albany. The farm which will be the scene of the meeting is yet owned by a member of the family, Mrs. L. H. Copeland.

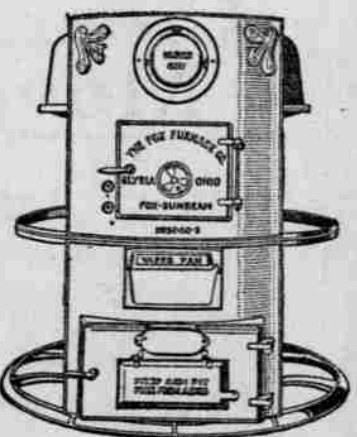
The members of this family have organized the Powell Memorial society and have decided to hold a reunion at this place annually. The officers of this society are: President, Dr. J. M. Powell of Monmouth; honorary vice-presidents, Francis Schaefer of Monmouth, H. C. Powell of Albany, J. G. Powell of Cottage Grove and John W. Propst of Albany; active vice-presidents, Francis Schaefer of Salem, Charles Powell of Cottage Grove, P. O. Powell of Monmouth and Quincy E. Propst of Albany; annalists, Mrs. Marjitha Arant of Monmouth; Ralph E. McKechnie of Albany, cashier of the First National bank of this city; Mrs. Tilla P. Taylor of Cottage Grove and Mrs. Mary McKinney of Turner; secretary-treasurer, Captain Frank M. Powell, assistant postmaster of Albany, who is also choirster of the society.

The programme of the reunion will begin at 11:30 and after an opening song and the president's address there will be a musical programme including vocal solos by J. F. Powell of Monmouth and Mrs. Francis Arant of Eugene, and a trombone solo by Burns Powell of Portland. The singing of the doxology and a prayer by F. D. Cornett of Crabtree, ex-representative from Linn county in the state legislature, will conclude the morning programme.

In the afternoon L. A. Long of Hillsboro will read a poem, "Our Soldier Boys," and toasts will be responded to as follows: "Pioneers of 1851," Mrs. Margaret Powell of Hillsboro; "Pioneer Ministers," Mayo McKinney of Turner; "The Powell Women," Eugene Cornett of Albany; "The Powell Men," Mrs. Ann Powell of Albany. The annalists will then make their reports and the programme will be concluded by a trombone solo by Milton McKinney of Turner, and a violin solo by Josephine Powell of Albany. There will be a big basket dinner at noon.

Captain Powell of this city, who sent out notices of the meeting, says he has received responses indicating that if the weather is favorable more than 200 persons will attend the reunion.

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