

ROSEBURG PLAINDEALER.

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SNYDER IS DEAD.

THE PERDUE MYSTERY STILL UNSOLVED.

ANOTHER DOUGLAS COUNTY TRAGEDY WHICH MAY NEVER BE EXPLAINED.

On Tuesday morning a man by the name of Zeke Allen brought the story to Roseburg, that the body of Harmon Snyder had been found within a distance of two hundred yards of E. R. Bagshaw's cabin which is located six miles south of Perdue in township 31, range 3 west. The story told was that the body was partly buried under a fallen tree and earth thrown over it and the whole covered with brush.

The citizens of Canyonville however, have not heard anything definite about the find and up to Wednesday, the time of the writing nothing definite is known nor has the report been confirmed.

The PLAINDEALER desires to give the citizens of Douglas County a brief history of the case and it will be remembered that in our issues of June 18 and 22 we stated that it was feared that Harmon Snyder had first been lost and afterwards died of exposure or hunger on the mountain range between Cow and Elk Creek and the matter rested with the report. Since that time, however, the PLAINDEALER has gathered the following stories which we will attempt to make dovetail. About June 8, E. R. Bagshaw asked Harmon Snyder, who was a slip-and-go-easy star boarder at the Senate Saloon to accompany him to his cabin to make some improvements. Bagshaw was a timber cruiser and locator who had done business in Roseburg for the past year or more and the two men went to Bagshaw's claim which is about 50 miles south-east of Roseburg as the road is not very straight. The men had been there two days and had plenty of wet groceries on hand. On June 15 Bagshaw wrote a letter and mailed it from Galesville on that date to Tom Cannon, of the Senate Saloon, saying that Snyder had left the cabin June 10, and if he had not arrived in Roseburg that he had got lost in the mountains. Snyder did not show up in Roseburg and fears were expressed that he was actually lost. The letter written by Bagshaw was very brief and conveyed only that information and no reason could be given why he had written about the matter to Cannon except that Bagshaw had a fear in his own mind that everything was not right with Snyder.

On July 3, a party consisting of Dave Shambrook, county clerk; George Dimmick, county treasurer; Frank Kennedy and Charles Gilvin started to hunt for Snyder, and on July 4 reached Bagshaw's cabin and searched it but what evidence they found they have never revealed. Dave Shambrook wrote down in his note book all that they saw, but that book has never been shown to anybody nor its contents made known, nor will a single member of the party talk about the matter, but in some mysterious manner of clairvoyance, the secret has leaked out, and the PLAINDEALER knows that

those gentlemen found unmistakable evidence of a struggle in the cabin, one bullet hole from a revolver had penetrated the wall and there were four bullet holes in the floor of the cabin and also the stains of what they believed to be blood on the floor; the pair of pants and also a necktie which Snyder wore when he left Roseburg were hanging on a nail in the cabin as well as certain other of the missing man's effects. Each of the investigators believed that Snyder had been killed in the cabin and the corpse afterwards removed or otherwise disposed of. While the investigators or searches for Snyder were in the cabin Bagshaw was in Roseburg, and strange to say when seen and talked to by Tom Cannon he never mentioned the Snyder letter or disappearance.

When the searches were looking for Snyder it rained continuously, and the undergrowth of grass and weeds was so great that little trace of the disturbance of the earth could be found. It is the intention of part of the party to return to the cabin to find trace of the body and to attempt to bring the murderer to justice. That Snyder is dead there can be no doubt. That there was conflict in the cabin is proof positive by the bullet holes. That Snyder did leave the cabin to return to Roseburg according to the statement written by Bagshaw is false, for Snyder's pants were found hanging on a nail in the cabin three weeks after Bagshaw wrote that Snyder had left and he feared he was lost in the mountains.

There is no direct evidence that Snyder has been murdered for no part of his body has been found that could be identified; but there is all the circumstantial and cumulative evidence that Snyder has been most foully murdered and the body made way with. Bagshaw may not have been in the cabin, he may know nothing about the affair, but from all appearances the tragedy enacted at the cabin on the mountain forest must have been as follows. Snyder and a man unknown arrived at the cabin on the night of June 9, Snyder having left Roseburg the night before. The men were tired out with their journey and after supper prepared for bed. Snyder hanging his pants and necktie on a nail.

There was plenty of whiskey in the cabin and the two men, whoever the second was, became intoxicated or partially so. A quarrel ensued when the unknown man shot Snyder who sank to the floor and in drunken madness the unknown man continued to shoot into the prostrate Snyder until all the cartridges had been exploded. The murderer drank more whiskey and fell in a stupor from which he awoke the next morning and then realizing the position he was in cut the body into pieces and secreted it in the forest or cremated it in the fire-place. This is the most possibly solution to the mystery as no part of the body has been found. The men who hunted for Snyder's body do not believe that it will ever be found.

There were five clear days from the time the murderer was supposed to have been committed until June 15, when Bagshaw wrote from the cabin and mailed the letter from Galesville on June 15, and in this time there was plenty of time to burn up the body in the fire place in the cabin. The evidence of a large fire being made in the fireplace is clearly apparent but if there had been any residue of the cremation all had been removed from the hearth.

We do not care to say directly that Bagshaw murdered Snyder but we will say that grave suspicions point to the

conclusion that Snyder was murdered in Bagshaw's cabin. If Bagshaw is looked upon as a modern Cain he cannot complain as he has made no effort to remove the suspicion he is under. There has been no legal investigation into the matter nor is there likely to be but to get at the bottom of the business and for the public good the PLAINDEALER makes this statement. If Bagshaw did not make away with Snyder he knows who did. If Snyder was murdered he knows who murdered him. Now, if Bagshaw, who is in Roseburg quite frequently having been here in the past ten days and who is now known to be in the south part of the county, does not want to be accounted either the murderer or the shielder of a murderer all he has to do is to bring a criminal libel suit against the Editor of this paper, and we will promise him that before he gets through with it, that he will either stand in the shadow of the gallows or be proclaimed an innocent man. We think it high time for the citizens of Douglas county to awake and thoroughly investigate the supposed murder cases. The late so-called suicide case in Roseburg for example, is believed to be a foul murder committed and the body conveyed to where it was found.

The report that the body of Harmon Snyder had been found has not been confirmed. Letters received from Perdue yesterday and today do not mention anything about the supposed find and the report circulated or said to have been circulated by Zeke Allen is believed to be the work of imagination. If the theory advanced by the PLAINDEALER is true the body has been reduced to ashes and the ashes scattered to the winds of heaven.

General News.

Tacoma and Helena have withdrawn from the Pacific National Baseball League and it is feared that it will succumb.

And now it is said that Root is to be the Republican nominee for President in 1908. "There is many a slip between the cup and the lip"

Even democratic-populistic Nebraska has gone back on Sweet William. Yesterday the republican state convention indorsed Roosevelt.

Just at this time the Empress Dowager of China, is bending every effort to kill off the progressive newspaper men and the old harridan has succeeded in having several beaten to death.

The associated press telegraphs the astounding news that Mme. Calve is not able to appear on the streets. One of her calves is swollen, but which one, the natural or the padded, the dispatch does not state.

The rejection of the Panama canal treaty by Columbia if not reconsidered will cause a revolution. Let the greasers scrap as that is heaven's own way of clearing the country for "benevolent assimilation."

On Monday at Oyster Bay, N. Y., the U. S. torpedo boat rammed the Decatur, a boat of the same class and the mock naval war was called off. President Roosevelt's eldest son was on board the Decatur at the time of the accident.

The trans-continental railroads have taken a few feathers out of the eagle's tail. They had enough money to purchase every vote of the Columbian senate and that body refused to ratify the Panama ship canal. As we stated two months ago Uncle Sam will have to swat that brat a little to make the brat respect promises.

PRISON CRAFTERS.

FOLSOM OFFICIALS RESPONSIBLE FOR ESCAPE

STRANGE STATEMENTS MADE ABOUT THE MANAGEMENT OF FOLSOM PENITENTIARY.

A Sacramento dispatch of yesterday's date says: Among the witnesses who will testify before the jury are a number of ex-guards. Among these are Joe Primmer and Dell Cann, who now work in the railway shops in this city; and Prigmore, who acquired fame at the time of the attempted break of Sontag, the train-robber. On that occasion Prigmore was ordered not to shoot, but he took the matter into his own hands and fired away, stopping the revolt at once, and soon afterward he got his dismissal. Cann is another man who proved himself beyond criticism in his work, yet it was determined that his services were no longer demanded.

Another man who will likely give his testimony is a guard who was met by the warden one day, it is said, and was asked to hand over his rifle for inspection. While the warden was looking at the gun, a convict started to run and was making good his escape, while the warden acted like a man with "buck fever," forgetting that he had a weapon in his hands. "Give me the gun," cried the guard, with some forcible addenda, and, grabbing the weapon, he fired one shot ahead of the fugitive, saying: "Halt, or I'll shoot to kill." The convict halted and surrendered at once. The guard apologized for his forcible language, on the ground of the excitement, but he was told in a short time that he could seek some other livelihood, and was allowed to leave the service.

The fact that 13 of the worst men in the prison could secure knives and razors for such a break is also one of the points that the jury will want to know all about, as well as the fact that the dynamite which was used to terrorize the guards in the armory into opening the door was brought to the prison in a wheelbarrow by a trusty. This wheelbarrow was left purposely, according to previous arrangement, right by the office of Captain Murphy, and it was the role of the convict Roberts to secure the dynamite, which was concealed under leaves. This Roberts did while the melee was going on at the office. What the jury will want to know is where did that dynamite come from? If it was prison dynamite, why was it not discovered by a system of checking against all of that article that was issued for use in the quarry?

Another statement which has been made on the authority of a very prominent state official is that during the past year four convicts have made their escape from the prison without any knowledge of this fact getting to the public, though the board of directors must have known all about it.

Woe to the Missouri Mule

And now the British government after purchasing over \$5,000,000

worth of Missouri mules to help whip the Boers, has gone back on the Missouri animal because they stampeded too often, and their rear action was more dangerous than their front action. The army experts have found that the offspring of a mare by a zebra is a far better animal than the mule, and while the "zebrula" has just as large ears as the mule and can kick much more viciously, that "it" can do more hard work under the tropical sun. It is also a large animal. If there is any money in raising zebrulas there are hundreds of stockmen in this country who will go into the business. The only thing that would be lost in raising the new animal would be the melodious song of Jerusalem pony; and as for beauty marks while the Missouri mule has only one stripe on his back the zebrulas are all stripes and range in depth of colors from brilliant black to pure white with shades of brown, fawn and cream colors. Because of the large size of the zebrula there would be a great demand for them in this country and under the present tariff arrangement on imported animals for breeding purposes, zebrulas would be admitted free of duty. There will be much money made in the next twenty five years in the zebrula business.

Bring in Samples.

W. H. Wehrung, president of the State Board of Agricultural, was a visitor in Roseburg yesterday. Senator Wehrung is making a tour of the state in the interest of the State Fair which opens at Salem, Sept. 14. The county exhibits at the State Fair promises to be the chief attraction both as an entertaining and an educational feature. Every county in the state is preparing to make a display of its products, and it is especially important to the citizens of Douglas that we have a showing of our products. There is not a farmer, orchardist or gardener in the county who cannot find on his place samples of grain, grass or fruit, that would make a creditable showing at the fair. We therefore urge the importance of bringing these samples in. No one person is expected to be the whole show; but if each will contribute something it will make a fine display in the aggregate. Secretary Cardwell, of the Board of Trade, will be glad to take charge of all samples and attend to the shipment. Now let us all contribute something and the result will be surprising.

The Sublime Porte, or in other words the murderous Sultan of Turkey, has ordered 52,000 more troops to Macedonia. The whole of Europe seem to be afraid of this red handed butcher, whom to kill as a common enemy of civilization would be a work of mercy.

From all accounts of the progress of the various revolutions against Turkish rule it seems that Bulgaria will declare war in sympathy with Macedonia.

The United States government has secured an "open door" to Manchuria. Two ports have been declared to be open. Mucdan is a good sized town but Tatung is a small affair.

More Outrages.

A dispatch received at Sopia on Tuesday from Uskub, says that 600 Bashi Bazuks, under the command of Albanian chiefs who are notoriously cruel, have pillaged and destroyed a number of Christian villages in the districts of Debre and Okrida. The Turkish authorities, it is added, connived at the outrages and furnished the Bashi Bazuks with old uniforms, in order that they might appear to be regular soldiers.